

Mountain View VOICE

JANUARY 16, 2009 VOLUME 17, NO. 2

INSIDE: WEEKEND | PAGE 14

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MICHELLE LE

Morgan Gillis constructs a battery box for a Kleenspeed Technologies race car. Below: A former Spec Racer Ford fitted with an electric drivetrain.

The need for Kleenspeed

MOFFETT-BASED COMPANY SAYS ITS ELECTRIC RACE CARS ARE THE FUTURE OF MOTOR SPORTS

By Daniel DeBolt

A company called Kleenspeed Technologies has quietly established itself in a large building at Moffett Field, operating with a simple goal in mind: beat gasoline-powered race cars at their own game.

With the help of venture capital and sponsorships, the company already has three different electric race cars up and running and under development in its shop near Moffett's Hangar One. Their most ambitious goal is to enter an electric race car in the 24 Hours of Le Mans — the world famous endurance race in France.

"I think most people will be pulling for it," said Jerry Kroll, CEO of Kleenspeed and a former agent for professional race car drivers.

The goal of the business side is to develop and patent software

and hardware on the racetrack that will improve the efficiency of hybrid or electric cars built by companies like Tesla, Toyota and GM.

"The sooner we can invent this stuff the better it is for the world," Kroll said.

Kroll predicts that someday "the recreational burning of fossil fuels will probably be legislated out of existence."

Hastening that day is the WX10-T, a low slung racer that

► See **KLEENSPEED**, page 6



MICHELLE LE

Hangar One may house new airship

NASA'S AMBITIOUS PLAN COULD SOLVE ISSUE OF NEW SIDING ONCE AND FOR ALL

By Daniel DeBolt

NASA Ames deputy director Lew Braxton told a crowd last Thursday that the agency was hard at work on a plan to restore Hangar One within the next 18 months in order to return it to "its original purpose."

"There is a possibility we will have another [airship] out here," Braxton said as he talked about NASA's plan for Hangar One.

The announcement was a revelation to those at the Moffett Field Restoration Advisory Board meeting, some of whom said they'd heard rumors, but no confirmation, that NASA wanted

to once more park a huge airship inside the iconic structure. Among other things, it would mean that NASA plans to re-skin the hangar after the Navy strips off its toxic siding.



Earlier that day, the Navy made official its plan to strip the siding off Hangar One and leave the bare skeleton to NASA. Hours later Braxton said

that NASA Ames is talking to two prospective tenants to find out who will share the \$15 million cost of re-siding Hangar One.

Both companies are in the aeronautics industry, and one is

► See **HANGAR**, page 7

Parents cry foul on enrollment

MV WHISMAN USES LOTTERY TO DECIDE WHO GETS INTO SCHOOLS AND PROGRAMS

By Casey Weiss

It may be up to Lady Luck this year whether some incoming kindergarteners get into their neighborhood schools or special choice programs.

The Mountain View Whisman Elementary School District is enacting an enrollment lottery for the first time as families prepare to register with the district in February. The change in policy comes after the student population

suddenly grew, reaching numbers not expected until 2011. Administrators said the lottery will give each family the

fairest chance of getting into their preferred schools and programs.

"Everyone should have equal access," said Stephanie Totter, director of administrative services.

Each school, as well as the parent participation program PACT and the Dual Immersion Spanish program, has a

► See **ENROLLMENT**, page 10

INSIDE

GOINGS ON 22 | MARKETPLACE 24 | MOVIES 20 | REAL ESTATE 27 | VIEWPOINT 13

REDEFINING QUALITY SINCE 1990
Reading between the emotional line makes the difference between finding a house and a home.

Dottie Monroe



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Voices

A R O U N D T O W N

Asked in Downtown Mountain View. Pictures and interviews by Kelly Truong.

What do you think Obama's first action should be upon taking office?



"Health care."
Lamont Dilwood, Mountain View



"Easing the public's economic woes."
David Brown, Sunnyvale



"I'd like to see him work toward a peaceful solution in Israel. It's difficult because Hamas isn't really open to that right now, but I'd like to see him work with the UN and find a peaceful solution."
Stephanie Hoffman, Palo Alto



"Putting into motion a gradual withdrawal in Iraq, and also addressing Israel's military assault in Gaza."
Soo-Rae Hong, Chicago



"I don't think there's one answer to that question. Take a big deep breath and start fixing every thing, because there are a lot of problems, a lot of issues. He [needs] to just stay true to what America needs."
Tatiana Norman, Mountain View

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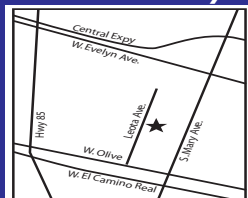
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LocalNews

■ POLICE LOG

AUTO BURGLARY

700 Block Continental Cl., 1/8
200 Block Charleston Road, 1/8
200 Block California St., 1/9
200 Block Charleston Road, 1/12

BRANDISHING WEAPON

100 Block Space Park Way, 1/7

COMMERCIAL BURGLARY

Polaris Ave., 1/7
100 Block Grant Road, 1/8
400 Block Fairchild Dr., 1/8
Leong Dr., 1/12
S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/12

DISORDERLY CONDUCT

100 Block Latham St., 1/6
200 Block Old Middlefield Way, 1/6
Castro St., 1/7
Walgreens, 1/12

DISTURBANCE

100 Block Springer Road, 1/7

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

Leksich Ave., 1/7

DRINKING IN PUBLIC

Escuela Ave./Gamel Way, 1/11

GRAND THEFT

200 Block Grant Road, 1/6

IDENTITY THEFT

800 Block Heatherstone Way, 1/8

MISSING PERSON - ADULT

El Camino Hospital, 1/12

MISSING PERSON - JUVENILE

S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/7
100 Block Space Park Way, 1/7
E. Dana St., 1/12

PETTY THEFT

Sears Department Store, 1/6
Walmart, 1/6

Showers Dr., 1/6

100 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/6
S. Rengstorff Ave., 1/6
400 Block San Antonio Road, 1/8
900 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/9
100 Block Crittenden Lane, 1/9
200 Block Dierick Dr., 1/11
N. Rengstorff Ave., 1/11
High School Way, 1/11
200 Block Grant Road, 1/12
Showers Dr., 1/12
100 Block Silverwood Ave., 1/12

POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA

200 Block California St., 1/11
Central Ex./Farley St., 1/12

RESIDENTIAL BURGLARY

200 Block E. Dana St., 1/8

STOLEN VEHICLE

100 Block California St., 1/8

SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

100 Block Higdon Ave., 1/9
Fairchild Dr., 1/12

SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES/PERSON

200 Block Fayette Dr., 1/7
Grant Road/Preston Dr., 1/7
700 Block Villa St., 1/9
Calderon Ave./W. El Camino Real, 1/9
800 Block Washington St., 1/9

UNLICENSED DRIVER

W. El Camino Real/El Monte Ave., 1/7

VANDALISM

Easy St., 1/6
400 Block W. El Camino Real, 1/8
100 Block Ednamary Way, 1/9
California St., 1/11
Ortega Ave., 1/12
California St., 1/12

■ CORRECTION

The *Voice* incorrectly reported last week that Sargent Binkley was an Army Ranger during his time in Honduras. He was in the Army, but was not a Ranger at the time.

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SPEAKING UP
SINCE 1992

THE
**MountainView
VOICE**



Looking for a match

By Don Frances

KATIE BEERS, wife of Dr. Dan Beers of Peninsula Laser Eye Medical Group on Castro Street, contacted the *Voice* with a heartfelt request.

"A friend of mine is dying of leukemia. (She is only 40 and has three kids.) I've been desperately helping her to find a bone marrow donor."

Beers' friend, Monique Larson, was diagnosed in December 2007. After a year of chemotherapy, doctors have determined that only a bone marrow transplant will save her. But finding a donor has been hard due to Larson's unique bloodline, which includes Native American and German heritage.

To find a match, a "bone marrow drive" is being held next weekend at the American Italian Deli in Los Altos. Participants can find out whether they have the ability to save Larson's life. Also, proceeds from that day's sales go to the Larson family. A flier states:

"If you or anyone you know is Native American and German please consider being tested for Monique. The test is free and consists of a swab inside your mouth."

The event is Jan. 24 and 25, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days, and the deli is located at 139 Main Street, Los Altos. For more information, e-mail Monique_Larson@yahoo.com.

MOUNTAIN VIEW resident Danek Kaus has written another book, "You Can Be Famous! Insider Secrets to Getting Free Publicity" — and it's a little ironic that I've taken so long to mention it.

"The book has endorsements from best-selling business authors and is starting to get great reviews," said Kaus, who has penned stories for many local periodicals, including this one. Recently, too, an independent film he co-wrote landed a distribution deal.

According to a press release, Kaus'

► See **EDITOR'S DESK**, page 7



MICHELLE LE

CLEAR OUT:

A natural gas leak on Rengstorff Avenue — caused after a landscaping contractor accidentally punctured a gas line — prompted the evacuation of several businesses at a shopping center there Monday afternoon, fire officials said.

The shopping center at 580 N. Rengstorff Ave. was undergoing renovation when the leak occurred at around 2:40 p.m. Firefighters arrived and evacuated nearby businesses, then shut down Middlefield Road from Rengstorff to Independence avenues while PG&E crews repaired the line. Middlefield was reopened at about 4 p.m.

Binkley gets a break: not guilty by reason of insanity

By Daniel DeBolt

A jury concluded Tuesday morning that Sargent Binkley was legally insane during his armed robbery of a Mountain View Walgreens in 2006, a verdict that will keep him from serving a mandatory 12-year prison sentence.

The same jury had found Binkley guilty of the crime late last month, but changed its verdict in the sanity phase of the trial.

Binkley was facing the state's mandatory 12-year prison sentence for armed robbery — a sentence he still faces in separate San Mateo County proceedings for a similar robbery in San Carlos.

Defense attorney Chuck Smith said Binkley will be evaluated by the county mental health department as to whether he needs to be hospitalized. If not, he could be set free and receive only outpatient treatment. His

treatment will be announced in court on Thursday, Jan. 15.

"He will not spend a day in prison, which is just spectacular," Smith said.

According to testimony from psychiatrists, Binkley suffers from post traumatic stress disorder and addiction to opiate painkillers. The trial was watched closely by the Armed Forces community, with some

► See **BINKLEY**, page 12

Oscar Garcia named Chamber CEO

Oscar Garcia, known locally as the president of Mesa de la Comunidad, has left his day job in technology marketing to become the CEO of Mountain View's Chamber of Commerce. He started the job last Monday.

"So far the only thing I know is where the restrooms are," he joked.

Before joining the chamber, Garcia managed the inside sales team at a division of Seagate Technology. In 2005 he helped found Mesa de la Comunidad,

a local nonprofit that advocates for the Latino community.

Garcia replaces interim CEO Valerie Boyle, who took over when Alison Nelson left last October.

— Daniel DeBolt

Senior Center still just for seniors

COUNCIL REJECTS PROPOSAL TO SHARE FACILITY WITH TEENS

By Daniel DeBolt

A plan to use the Mountain View Senior Center for evening teen activities pitted old against young Tuesday night and split the council down the middle in an emotionally charged meeting.

"We're just making a huge mistake by doing this," said council member Jac Siegel, who opposed the idea along with members John Inks and Laura Macias. Member Mike Kasperzak was absent, leaving the council deadlocked 3-3 and effectively killing the proposal.

Members Tom Means, Margaret Abe-Koga and Ronit Bryant supported the temporary six month program, which would have opened the doors of the Senior Center to teens for classes and activities after 6:30 p.m. on weeknights at a cost of \$36,000. In an attempt to fulfill the council's top goal last year — "Positive activities for youth" — the idea was to provide a place for underserved teens in the Rengstorff neighborhood while the city works on building a permanent, after-school teen center.

"It's a pilot program, let's give it a try," said council member Ronit Bryant. "If it doesn't, then we say it wasn't a good idea — how sad."

High school student and teen center advocate Eduardo Olmos said he had a feeling of satisfaction from his work in advocating for youth because the council was considering the plan. The council was finally "taking a step forward," he said.

However, several seniors did not approve.

"Why are you pursuing the teen center? I don't understand it," said Rose Talmage, who gave her age as "almost 90."

► See **COUNCIL**, page 8



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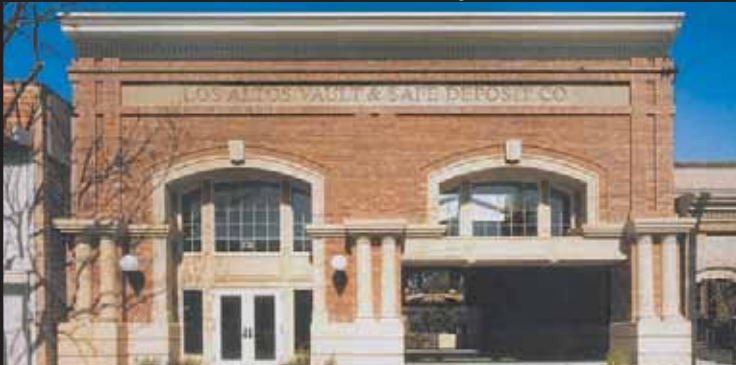
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DANIEL DEBOLT

MOFFETT BUILDING IS THE IDEAL SHOP SPACE

It's a dream-come-true scenario for most gearheads: all the shop space you could want and a huge piece of smooth asphalt to test your vehicle.

That dream did come true for electric race car company Kleenspeed Technologies, which has taken over the big-box-sized former hardware store at Moffett Field after the Navy Exchange closed it last year. As part of its lease agreement with NASA Ames, Kleenspeed is able to use its parking lot and the Moffett runway for testing. A video on the company's Web site, www.kleenspeed.com, shows one of the cars flashing up and down the tarmac.

In order for private companies to be allowed to lease space at Moffett, their presence must somehow fit in with NASA's mission of space exploration. So how does Kleenspeed fit? The space agency has an interest in electric vehicles for use on the Moon and Mars — therefore, it wants to keep electric vehicle experts like Kleenspeed close at hand.

— Daniel DeBolt

KLEENSPEED

► Continued from page 1

borrowing its chassis from a gas-powered IMSA Lights racer. It accelerates from zero to 60 miles per hour in three seconds and has reached a top speed of 136 miles per hour so far, but is expected to reach 160. It uses an AC Propulsion motor and controller — a set-up not publicly available but which powers other fast electric cars like the Wrightspeed X-1 and the Tzero — that is modified by Thruxar, a brand of Kleenspeed.

The batteries — “a private product,” Kroll said — sit in boxes on each side of the driver and will last through a 30-minute race. The unmarked lithium-ion-phosphate cells, no bigger than flashlight batteries, are linked in long strands and packed into four boxes for each car.

“A lot of this stuff is stuff people don't have,” Kroll said, referring to the backyard electric vehicle builder.

Kleenspeed, in partnership with West Race Cars, plans to sell the WX10-T (The T stands for Thruxar) for about \$100,000, Kroll said.

This model is a smaller version of what will be built to race in the 24 Hours of Le Mans, Kroll said. While other cars stop for fuel, the Kleenspeed car will be stopping for new battery packs — or “energy

storage devices,” depending on the technology that becomes available next year. Kroll says the Le Mans car would have the electric motor equivalent of a 2,000-horsepower gas engine.

To entice buyers of the WX10-T, a free \$4,000 set of wheels comes with each car, donated by a Morgan Hill wheel manufacturer called Jongbloed. Kleenspeed is negotiating with a tire manufacturer that will provide free tires to buyers for a whole racing season.

A more affordable race car also sits in the Kleenspeed shop: a former “Spec Racer Ford” which had its 1.9-liter Ford engine replaced by two “pancake”-style electric motors powering each rear wheel, and a black box wired to each motor for control. The Sports Car Club of America has all but given the green light to allowing electric conversion cars to race against their gas-powered counterparts, and Kroll said about 900 of these \$15,000 cars currently are being raced at tracks around the country.

Kleenspeed is developing a Thruxar drive system for the Spec Racer cars that will cost \$20,000 to \$30,000, not including batteries. Kroll says he already has 12 race teams interested in the kit. The prototype weighs about 1,600 pounds with batteries for a 30-minute race, goes zero to 60 in about six seconds, and has a top speed of 110 miles per hour.

Kroll believes race organizers may go further than just allowing electric conversions; many sanctioning bodies could rewrite the rules to give electric cars an advantage “in order to send a clear message,” he said.

Besides their lack of greenhouse gas emissions, electric cars have another advantage that could be of crucial help to the sport of auto racing: they're quieter. Local governments have imposed strict sound restrictions on some tracks, such as Laguna Seca in Monterey, in order to give peace and quiet to their residential neighbors. But a pack of electric cars on the racetrack is about “as loud as the Tour De France,” Kroll says.

Kroll believes the younger generation may find new interest in motor sports thanks to electric vehicles. It could also spark the interest of older racers — after all, the learning curve isn't that steep, he said.

“You can't be a dummy and be racing,” Kroll said, adding, “It really isn't that complicated.”

Kleenspeed's rubber will meet the road in Sebring, Fla. on March 15, when the quiet WX10-T will take on a pack of loud gas-powered race cars in the IMSA Lights series. For more information, visit www.kleenspeed.com. ■

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com

HANGAR

► Continued from page 1

working on a large airship for the U.S. Department of Defense, Braxton said.

"I know there is a lot of concern because we are working behind the scenes," Braxton said. "We have been in dialogue with headquarters and working with the Pentagon."

Braxton would not name the airship or the company, but many who heard him speak are now certain that Moffett Field may become the West Coast base for a 500-foot-long Army airship constructed by Lockheed in Akron, Ohio — in Hangar One's twin structure, the Goodyear Airdock.

"It was obvious to anyone who knows what's going on in the world that he [Braxton] means the one Lockheed is building at Akron," said RAB civilian co-chair Bob Moss. "There are only two companies in the world that are building airships."

Braxton would not give many details about the airship, but mentioned that it could be fitted with "sensors" for NASA's earth sciences work. Braxton also said the airship would be too large for Hangar Two or Hangar Three at Moffett.

According to Lockheed's Web site, a smaller prototype airship called HALE-D is in the works now. It would be used by the Army for missile defense and ground surveillance, doing the work of satellites at less cost. Wrapped in thin solar panels which charge batteries running four electric motors, the airship is supposed to be capable of flying above the jet stream at 60,000 feet for weeks at a time. Lockheed won a \$150 million government contract to build it several years ago.

Building a hangar big enough to house such an airship would cost more than \$90 million — much more than the cost of restoring Hangar One, Moss said.

One source familiar with NASA Ames' efforts to lease Hangar One believes Ames director Pete Worden

is pushing the Lockheed airship as a "pet project." But the airship buffs who want to save Hangar One may not have a problem with that.

If NASA brings an airship to Hangar One, there will be "applause," Moss said. "You don't need a public hearing to know what the reaction will be."

In a speech during Moffett Field's 75th anniversary celebration last year, Worden talked enthusiastically about airships — the "clean transportation" they could provide, how they could help with homeland security and act as "observational platforms," or to "help us understand climate change."

Some worry that the airship plan would preclude other uses in the 1,100-foot-long hangar. At the RAB meeting, some brought up whether the Moffett Field Historical Society museum would be moved back into Hangar One. Braxton said it was being considered. NASA Ames realizes

that the hangar would have to be opened periodically for some kind of "public touring" of the historic structure, he said, adding that NASA would like to park some of its historic planes in Hangar One as well.

The Navy plans to begin taking the siding down as early as October of this year, and Braxton said NASA wants to put up new siding while the scaffolding is still in place. A material for the new siding has yet to be selected. Having it all done in 18 months "is pretty aggressive," Braxton said, adding that NASA hopes to receive some extra funding from the Obama administration.

But NASA's first priority is to ensure that the agency is not left with any toxic cleanup responsibilities for Hangar One, Braxton said.

In an e-mail, RAB founder Lenny Siegel said Braxton's comments were "the most substantive and detailed affirmation thus far that federal agencies intend that the hangar be cleaned, restored, and reused." ▀

Moffett Field may become the West Coast base for a 500-foot-long Army airship constructed by Lockheed in Akron, Ohio

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Don Frances can be reached at dfrances@mv-voice.com.

EDITOR'S DESK

► Continued from page 5

book "teaches small business owners, professionals and others how to get stories about them and their business in newspapers, magazines, TV and radio shows and the Internet." Also, the book will reveal many of Kaus' "secrets" — such as

Notice of Public Meetings January 21-29, 2009

Proposed 2009 Transit Service Plan

VTA will hold eight public meetings to present proposed bus service changes for 2009 and to obtain public input. The main objective of this cost-neutral proposal is to reallocate resources from underutilized service to improve and increase service to bus lines with higher ridership.

The VTA bus lines affected by the proposed changes are listed below:

Major Changes

VTA Bus Lines 14, 15, 17, 37, 45, 63, 64, 66, 68, 88, 89, 180, 181 and a new community bus line serving Kaiser Santa Clara.

Minor Changes

VTA Bus Lines 10, 13, 18, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 31, 33, 46, 48, 49, 52, 55, 57, 58, 60, 61, 62, 70, 71, 72, 73, 77, 81, 82, 330 and DASH.

Meeting Locations

**Wednesday, January 21
2:00 p.m.**

Alum Rock Youth Center
Community Room
137 N. White Road
San Jose

This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 25, 45 and 71.

**Monday, January 26
4:00 p.m.**

Lucie Stern Community Center
Community Room
1305 Middlefield Road
Palo Alto

This location is served by VTA Bus Line 35.

**Tuesday, January 27
2:00 p.m.**

Campbell Community Center
Roosevelt Community Room
1 West Campbell Avenue
Campbell

This location is served by VTA Bus Lines 26 and 60.

**Tuesday, January 27
7:00 p.m.**

Fremont Community Center
Teen Center
39770 Paseo Padre Parkway
Fremont

This location is served by AC Transit Lines 214 and 218.

**Wednesday, January 28
3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.**

County of Santa Clara
Isaac Newton Room
70 West Hedding Street
San Jose

This location is served by VTA Light Rail and Bus Lines 61, 62, 66, 180 and 181.

**Thursday, January 29
4:00 p.m.**

Morgan Hill Community & Cultural Center
Hiram Morgan Hill Room
17000 Monterey Road
Morgan Hill

This location is served by VTA Bus Line 68.

**Thursday, January 29
7:00 p.m.**

Gilroy City Hall
Council Chambers
7351 Rosanna Street
Gilroy

This location is served by VTA Bus Line 19.

If you require special accommodations to participate in the meetings, please contact VTA (see below) at least five days in advance of the meeting.

For More Information

For a detailed list of the proposed changes log onto www.vta.org or call VTA Customer Service.



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COUNCIL

► Continued from page 5

"I had 50 phone calls today — everybody I know in Mountain View my age is against it. We paid a lot of taxes. I just don't understand it — it hurts me so much."

Two other seniors spoke, one of them saying that teens would be disrespectful and aggressive. "They push you just as though you were not there," she said.

Siegel agreed that the youth would be energetic, saying that "teens don't know how walk — they run."

"If you've ever been to a party and not felt welcome, I'm afraid that's the feeling we would have day to day," Macias said.

Inks said he had a "keen interest" in the problems faced by teens in the neighborhood, but would not support spending money on "this particular trial."

Created with the input of the city's Youth Advisory Committee, the plan would have provided homework assistance, fitness classes, CPR classes and babysitting classes. On the second and fourth Saturday night of each month there would be special activities, including a video game tournament, a "battle of the bands" and an open

mic night or movie night.

When the vote on plan failed 3-3, Siegel made another motion: look at the Rengstorff Community Center as an alternative site. The proposal, which ups the cost from \$36,000 to \$50,000, passed 5-1 with Inks opposed.

However, staffers said the community center was already at capacity.

"It sounds really simple to find another space — it's really not," Bryant said.

Recreation manager Jim Teixeira said city staff would return to council with another plan making use of other facilities in the area, adding that it "may not serve the same purpose."

"In recreation we try to do what we can with what we have," Teixeira said.

General Plan rewrite chugs ahead

Despite concerns from several members, the council on Tuesday night selected Bay Area Economics to write the housing element of the General Plan, trusting city staff's assurances that the firm would not try to be the "policy maker" and would not provide a "cookie cutter" report.

BAE is the same firm that wrote a feasibility report on preserving part of the Grant Road Farm,

■ **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

LOCALS PREPARE FOR SERVICE ON MLK DAY

Local agencies are answering a call from the incoming presidential administration by organizing volunteer opportunities on and around Martin Luther King Day.

The president-elect sent out a mass e-mail encouraging supporters to honor the holiday on Monday, Jan. 19. In response, local agencies are setting up several programs, including:

■ A blood drive Jan. 17 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Stanford Blood Center, 515 South Drive, Suite 20, Mountain View. Call (650) 723-7831 for an appointment.

■ A prepared dinner for the homeless on Jan. 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the EHC Shelter, 620 E. Maude Ave., Sunnyvale. Volunteers from Congregation Shir Hadash will be serving those who stay overnight at the shelter. Call Neil Ehrenberg at (408) 667-7150 for more information.

■ "MLK Day with Hospitalized Veterans" at the VA Medical Center, 3801 Miranda Ave., Palo Alto, from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 3 p.m. A pictorial and musical presentation of the civil rights movement will be shown. Contact Jerry Duncan at (650) 444-8021 or visit www.usaservice.org.

— Casey Weiss

which was not "economically sound," Inks said.

The council also approved a timeline for the complete General Plan rewrite, which will be finished in two years and cost \$850,000.

Chat with MAK

Continuing the mayoral tradi-

tion of holding open office hours, new Mayor Margaret Abe-Koga will be available to residents every Thursday morning at Peet's Coffee at 1032 Castro St. from 8:30 to 10 a.m. ▣

E-mail Daniel DeBolt at ddebolt@mv-voice.com



Len Tillem, Esq.

Host of KGO's "Legaltalk"

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KGO's Len Tillem & Michael Gilfix

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Cyclists to ride in budget protest

By Casey Weiss

While they continue to wait for news from Sacramento about state budget cuts, local leaders are planning a community bike ride to protest any slashes that would affect children.

The ride will start at the El Camino YMCA on Grant Road on Sunday, May 3, and cover 27 miles through Mountain View, Sunnyvale and Los Altos — all in an effort to bring light to children's rights, including the need for health and educational initiatives.

"This will bring attention to the state that awareness needs to be on the kids," said YMCA sports director Trenton Hill, who is working with the Community Health Awareness Council to plan the event.

The protest ride is becoming an annual tradition among Mountain View community leaders. After Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger first announced potential cuts to education last spring, Mountain View Whisman School District Superintendent Maurice Ghysels, former CHAC board president Bruce Barsi and parent Nelson Iwai biked the 126 miles to Sacramento.


With California facing a multi-billion-dollar deficit through June 2010, local leaders want to plan something bigger that involves more of the community. District administrators say all educational programs are once again on the table now that the elementary and Mountain View-Los Altos High School districts are facing more than \$1 million each in cuts.

Bikers will begin at the YMCA at 9 a.m. and head to the west side of Sunnyvale. The three-hour ride will eventually end back at the YMCA for the annual kid's health fair, which goes until 2 p.m.

Local community leaders have been planning the May ride during their monthly Challenge Team meeting, and are encouraging families and children to participate, if only for a short time. Parent-teacher councils from local schools will set up frequent stops for food and drink.

"We are doing as much as we can to get as many people and schools involved, so we can have the biggest impact," Hill said. ▀

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The Tennis Advisory Board will advise the Community Services Department regarding Tennis Programs, Facilities, and Services.

The program seeks male, female and youth applicants in the Mountain View tennis playing community. Those appointed to the Board will serve a one-year appointment and participate in board activities including three meetings throughout the year.

The deadline for applications is January 16, 2009. Applications can be picked up at the Mountain View Community Center, 201 Rengstorff Avenue, or at the Cuesta Tennis Center, 685 Cuesta Drive.

For more information call the Recreation Division at: (650) 903-6331



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OBITUARY

DIOMEDES (AMANTE) DANDROY, SR.

Diomedes (Amante) Dandroy, Sr., a resident of Mountain View for more than 20 years, died peacefully on Jan. 5 in San Jose. He was 75.

Born in Santa Maria, Ilocos Sur, Philippines, Diomedes served in the Philippine Navy before immigrating to Silicon Valley. He was a cancer and stroke survivor with many friends and

loved ones in the area.

He is survived by his former wife Maxie; siblings Lety, Dolly, Edith, Nedy, Monica, Baby, Tony, Fred and Amado; children Rosalin, Arnold, Regina and Dio Jr.; and grandchildren Joy, Ronnie, Nerissa, Laura and Jennifer.

A Funeral Mass and Internment were held Jan. 12 at Oak Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Park, 300 Curtner Ave., San Jose.

ENROLLMENT

▶ Continued from page 1

specific capacity for new kindergarteners. If enrollment numbers for 2009-10 exceed these limits, administrators will place students' registration numbers into a hat and hold a lottery.

The move was announced during an informational meeting for new families on Jan. 7. Hundreds of parents attending the meeting were unhappy with the new policy, and some said it may drive them out of the district and into private school.

"It has been very frustrating because we have been getting incomplete and late information," parent John Penzer said. "Up until December, everyone was under the impression that enrollment was first come, first served."

Last year, parents camped outside the district office the night before open enrollment started to reserve a place for their students in a specific program or school. Totter said this year will be different, and anyone who signs up during the open enrollment period for 2009-10, from Feb. 2 to Feb. 27, has the same chances.

Under the California educational code, school districts have the right to enact "unbiased" policies that are equal for all parents once schools reach full capacity, Totter said. The district board decided to change its enrollment policy after parents started camping out.

"People were saying this system was first come, first served," Totter said of the previous policy. "First come, first served is not unbiased."

According to current district policy, enrollment priority goes to neighborhood students, then to siblings of students currently enrolled at the school, then to students whose parents teach at the school. The policy accounts for 13 different scenarios, and lotteries will be held by group depending on the number of students who enroll at each school.

The district will first hold the PACT and Dual Immersion lotteries after open enrollment is completed. If a student is wait-listed in one of these programs, he or she can still apply to his or her neighborhood school. All students living within the district boundaries are guaranteed a spot at one of the local schools, even if they do not get into their neighborhood kindergarten, Totter said.

Administrators will spend the first week of March organizing enrollment papers, and hope to have decisions by the end of that month, but Totter said it could take longer. She is expecting up to 600 incoming kindergarteners.

Shannon Wilson, the mother of an incoming kindergartener, said she and her husband did not want to send their child to their neighborhood school, Landels, which traditionally does not meet all state or federal benchmarks in standardized testing. They had hoped to stay in the district, but only if they could get into PACT.

"Up until now our plan involved camping out to get into PACT," Wilson said. "I never knew of a lottery."

Now, she said, her child will probably go to private school.

Wilson joined other incoming parents who said they were disappointed with their initial experiences with the district. They said they had heard various rumors leading up to the meeting, and that district administrators were not clear about past policies.

The parents also said they want the enrollment process to start earlier. Applications for private school are due before late March, meaning parents would have to apply before they will hear back from the district about enrollment.

"There are some major communication issues going on," parent John Panzer said.

In the past, administrators did not make enrollment decisions until April, Totter said, but recently the process was moved forward. ■

SIoux LEWELLYN LEHNER AN ANGEL DANCES AMONG THE STARS



A star was born on January 14, 1958. Sioux Lewellyn Lehner was soon to be known as one of the most influential, amazing, inspirational women you will ever meet. She was destined for stardom: a beautiful face, charisma, talent, and an undeniable gift for the stage. As a San Francisco Bay Area native, Sioux grew up in the small, suburban town of Sunnyvale, California. She has touched thousands of lives, both young and old, all over the world.

Sioux began taking dance classes from Benni Smith at the age of three and flourished quickly into an exquisite tap, jazz and ballet dancer. She was the team captain for her dance team, "The Featherettes", at Fremont High School, coached by her future "second mom", Marlene Rosburg. After graduating high school, Sioux continued to pursue her dreams and made the bold move to Hollywood.

At age 21, Sioux landed the title of Miss Los Angeles County and continued on to compete for the title of Miss California. Her journey had just begun, and already she had a name for herself. After dancing for the NFL 49er's Gold Rush Cheerleaders, Sioux auditioned for the national TV show, "Midnight Special", hosted by Wolfman Jack. She became one of the lead, reoccurring dancers. The videos still exist, and you can immediately spot that beautiful, tall dancer with the amazing legs and huge smile... It was Sioux.

There was magic in the air when David Copperfield hired Sioux to be the next dancer extraordinaire for his shows. Sioux was in his incredibly entertaining magic show for three years, before moving onto work in the film industry. She appeared in two famous feature films: "Dr. Detroit" with Dan Akroide and "Going Berserk" with John Candy. During this time, Sioux

had family on her mind. She met and fell in love with her husband, Peter Lehner. Sioux was the lead in a show in Japan when she and Peter found out a baby was on the way.

Back in the United States, Sioux began teaching for the USA Drill Team alongside American Idol and Pop Star, Paula Abdul. Old time high school friend, Terri Hatcher, was babysitting Sioux's daughter while the Lehner family prepared for some big plans in the Bay Area. Sioux's dream was to open up her own dance studio. Little did she know that it would be much more than that. In 1989 a legend began. This would change not only the Bay Area, but thousands of lives. Sioux created "Dance Attack", in Mountain View, California; it was the start of a dance revolution. Dance Attack had three buildings, 20 teachers on staff, over 500 students, and an energy and love for dance that was unstoppable. Dance Attack competed and traveled all over the United States, and many of her previous students are world-wide celebrities today.

10 years and three beautiful children later, it was time again to concentrate on her family. Peter was offered a great job opportunity, so Peter, Sioux, Rachele, Justin and Jake moved to Tigard, Oregon. Here, Sioux also created her next dance studio, "Fired Up". However, this was a different path for her, a more spiritual one. This time around, Sioux wanted her students to practice their gifts and talents for God.

Sioux was a strong believer, and she had undeniable faith. To those who knew her well, it is no wonder why she loved angels so much: because Sioux herself was one. Each and every life Sioux has touched will never forget what she has given them. We now have the opportunity to carry on Sioux's love for dance and for God. Like Sioux always said, "Follow Your Dreams Where Ever They May Take You." We love you Sioux...

A celebration of Sioux Lehner's life will be held at The Flint Center in Cupertino, CA on Monday, January 19, 2009 at 4:00 pm. All friends and family are invited to attend.

PAID OBITUARY

Board begins study of Castro crunch

MV WHISMAN TRUSTEES HOPE TO REDUCE ENROLLMENT AT POPULAR SCHOOL

By Casey Weiss

Parents and teachers crowded the Mountain View Whisman School District's normally empty board room last week, anxious over the future of Castro Elementary School as trustees decide how to curb its growing student population.

With over 4,400 students currently enrolled in its schools, the district has reached numbers not expected until 2011. Castro was hit especially hard, in part due to an increase in enrollment in the campus' two programs: PACT and Dual Immersion Spanish.

PACT, a parent participation program, has 194 students. Dual Immersion has 299, and another 158 students are enrolled in traditional classes at Castro, bringing the school's population to 651, administrators said during the Jan. 8 meeting.

The sudden rise also is partly due to an increase of families moving into military housing at Moffett Field, administrators said. They hope to bring the Castro population back down to around 600.

Trustees have two weeks to pick the best option for the school from a list of five options: leaving the campus as it is, limiting enrollment for kindergarteners, moving some of PACT to a different site, building a new campus for PACT and prohibiting new transfers from out of the district. Trustees planned to hold a special open study session on Jan. 15, and hope to make a decision by the Jan. 22 board meeting.

"It's not an exhaustive list. It's just to get the board thinking," Craig Goldman, the district's chief financial officer, said of the options. "From my standpoint nothing is resonating with clarity, but we hope there is clarity by the end of the study session."

Even though it is only a little larger than the other campuses, Castro has a significantly larger student population compared to the other elementary schools in the district. Bubb Elementary School comes in second with 548 students. Castro also has the most out-of-district transfers who come to the campus for its two special programs.

Although PACT parents and teachers had offered to move to a new building in an effort to alleviate overcrowding, such a move could cost millions in renovation and maintenance costs and in lost revenue. In November, trustee Ellen Wheeler said the district cannot afford the loss during a state budget crisis. Administrators now

say they could possibly move the program to Graham Middle School, but have other more cost-efficient options on the table.

Among those options, the last two — to move some PACT classes (kindergarten to second grade) to a new site, or to limit new kindergarten classes and eliminate 65 out-

of-district transfers in kindergarten through second grade — would have the quickest impact on enrollment numbers.

On Jan. 8, a brief debate among the trustees about the PACT program ran along familiar lines, with Wheeler saying she could not justify spending more money on one group of students.

"I think it's critical that we are all seen as sharing the pain of the upcoming cuts," Wheeler said, reading aloud some comments she had prepared. "I think we're setting PACT parents and teachers up for outrage by other members of our community."

Other trustees disagreed that a new building would only benefit PACT and Castro students. Money for renovations would come from a special fund designated only for construction, they reminded Wheeler.

"The kids at Castro seem to be sacrificing more," said trustee Steve Olson. "If \$400,000 fixes the problem, it would alleviate a school that has sacrificed." ▀

E-mail Casey Weiss at cweiss@mv-voice.com

INFORMATION

Two more meetings are planned on the issue of overcrowding at Castro. One is a study session on Thursday, Jan. 15 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Castro School, 505 Escuela Ave. The board will again take up the issue on Jan. 22 at the district office, 750-A San Pierre Way, time TBA.

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■ NEWS BRIEFS

**LAND TRANSFER DELAYS
BAY TRAIL OPENING**

The opening of a long-awaited Bay Trail connection around Moffett Field is being delayed as officials wait for a small piece of it to be transferred from the Cargill Salt Co. to NASA.

Bay Trail project manager Laura Thompson said that at one point Cargill was willing to open the trail before transferring the small piece of land, but a later decision was made by Cargill executives against it.

Once completed, the 500-mile trail will encircle the waterfront of San Francisco and San Pablo bays. More than half of the trail has been completed, and the Moffett section would make an important connection from Palo Alto and Mountain View to Sunnyvale through Alviso.

The section would have opened in November 2008, but now will have to wait until sometime this spring, Thompson said.

"The trail exists — we just need to take the gates down," she said.

city of Palo Alto press release. Additional road repair and asphalt replacement will close lanes in the same area this fall.

— Daniel DeBolt

**ROASTING MEAT CAUSES
99 RANCH FIRE**

A duck or a pig that caught fire in an oven sparked a blaze at the 99 Ranch supermarket on Grant Road last Thursday.

Mountain View Fire Department firefighters quickly controlled the two-alarm fire that started around 8:45 a.m., said fire department spokesman Lynn Brown.

Firefighters arrived at the 99 Ranch Market at 1350 Grant Road to find a kitchen fire nearly extinguished by the in-house sprinkler system, Brown said. Firefighters had the blaze controlled by 9 a.m.

There was no apparent structural damage, Brown said, though a precise damage estimate hasn't been determined.

— Bay City News

**TRUCK BURSTS INTO
FLAMES ON HWY 101**

Police temporarily shut down Highway 101 southbound on Wednesday morning just before 11 a.m. after a garbage truck burst into flames near the Shoreline Boulevard exit.

The garbage truck was driving on the freeway when it caught fire, police said. Firefighters were quickly able to contain the fire, according to police spokesperson Liz Wylie, and were planning to bring the truck to Sunnyvale to be emptied.

Traffic stopped on Highway 101 while firefighters worked to contain the fire, and police also shut down the service road next to the freeway.

— Casey Weiss

**SAN ANTONIO LANES
CLOSED FOR TREE
REMOVAL**

Sections of busy San Antonio Road north of Central Expressway are being closed while numerous large trees are removed from the median.

Beginning Monday, Jan. 12, the city of Palo Alto has been closing one lane in each direction between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays, and will continue to do so for the next four months.

Workers will be removing the large trees and their "invasive roots" to make way for more "sustainable" street trees and plants, according to a

Inspirations

A Guide to the Spiritual Community

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BINKLEY

► Continued from page 5

calling it an important ruling in favor of veterans with PTSD and others saying Binkley was a fraud who never saw combat and used his Army service in order to gain undeserved sympathy.

Family and friends were tearful after the verdict Tuesday, said Alan Lubke, a Vietnam veteran who has been following the trial.

Binkley, 34, is a Los Altos native who attended Los Altos High School and West Point military academy. Psychiatrists testified at the trial that Binkley developed PTSD during his service in Bosnia

and Honduras and developed an addiction to painkillers after a hip injury that went untreated following his return home in 2001.

In January 2006, he robbed the Walgreens pharmacy on the corner of El Camino Real and Grant Road using an unloaded handgun. He later turned himself in.

Of the six court-appointed psychiatrists, only two testified that Binkley was legally insane during the crime. One of them, Dr. Leonard Donk, said Binkley was legally sane because he had a clear plan for the robbery. But he also said Binkley thought he would die if he didn't get his medication. ■

Viewpoint

- EDITORIAL
- YOUR LETTERS
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■ WHAT'S YOUR VIEW?

All views must include a home address and contact phone number. Published letters will also appear on the web site, www.MountainViewOnline.com, and occasionally on the Town Square forum.

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■ EDITORIAL THE OPINION OF THE VOICE

Economy didn't dim Voice Holiday Fund

Voice readers shrugged off the sagging economy and dug into their pockets this year, collecting more than \$40,000 to support seven local nonprofits. Thanks to you, many local residents will once again benefit from our annual Holiday Fund drive.

A record 178 donors, up significantly from last year's 143, contributed to the fund, which also receives grants from the Wakerly Family Foundation, the Packard Foundation and the Hewlett Foundation.

The Silicon Valley Community Foundation administers the Holiday Fund, and arranged for the grants from the William and Flora Hewlett and David and Lucile Packard foundations, which along with the Wakerly Family grant totaled just over \$30,000.

This year, donations from individuals hit a high of \$2,100 each from two readers, and a number of others contributed \$1,000 each. The Mountain View Mom's Cookie Party continued its longtime support of the Holiday Fund with a donation of \$680.

As of this writing, a total of \$72,840 was contributed by readers and the three foundations, meaning that each of the seven nonprofits supported by the Voice Holiday Fund will receive \$10,465 in early February. Here are the seven agencies:

- The Community Services Agency, or CSA, of Mountain View and Los Altos;
- The Community Health Awareness Council, known as CHAC;
- Mountain View Rotacare, based at El Camino Hospital;
- The Day Worker Center of Mountain View;
- The Support Network for Battered Women;
- The Community School of Music and Arts;
- Partners for a New Generation.

Each year, in our late November and December editions, the Voice supports the Holiday Fund drive by publishing a coupon and information about the fund, as well as stories about each of the nonprofits that will benefit. And each year, ever since its inception six years ago, readers have increased their donations — from \$13,000 in 2003-04 to more than \$40,000 this year.

The Voice staff and Publisher Tom Gibboney are grateful to readers who contributed and thank them for their generous gifts, which help support the nonprofit agencies that serve the less fortunate in our community.

■ LETTERS VOICES FROM THE COMMUNITY

LOITERING DAY WORKERS ARE NOT LONG GONE

Editor:

Your Jan. 9 editorial stated that, thanks to the Day Worker Center, the days of day workers lining El Camino Real, loitering in parking lots and creating ill will, are long gone ("Worker center won't ruin the neighborhood").

On Friday, Jan. 9 and Saturday, Jan. 10 at 10:45 a.m., I walked along El Camino Real, adjacent to The San Antonio Shopping Center, to see if this was true. I counted 73 day workers on Friday and 71 on Saturday.

It appears the day workers didn't know that they are long gone.

Donald J. Bahl
Garden Terrace

waited until the Assyrians were at their gates before thinking up a plan. They tried to build up the walls, but the Assyrians built their towers faster and overran and destroyed their once-great city.

Jerusalem under King Hezekiah was more proactive. They built an underground tunnel to safeguard their precious water supplies. They beefed up their walls, and built extra guard towers. When the Assyrians came, their efforts were frustrated, and after a plague struck the Assyrians they withdrew, thereby saving the Southern Kingdom.

We in California should take a note from Hezekiah's playbook. Global warming is advancing like the Assyrians of old. If we prepare early, perhaps we will be as lucky as the Israelites. If not, disaster beckons.

Ed Taub
Devoto Street

A GLOBAL WARMING LESSON FROM HEZEKIAH

Editor:

History is often a good guide to seeing how various strategies turn out in actual practice. Patrick Hunt of Stanford is a globetrotting archaeologist whose lecture I attended. He spoke of the ancient Assyrians and their campaign of conquest against the ancient Israelites. They were the ones who conquered the North, creating the "Ten Lost Tribes."

The people of Lachish were an accomplished group, but they

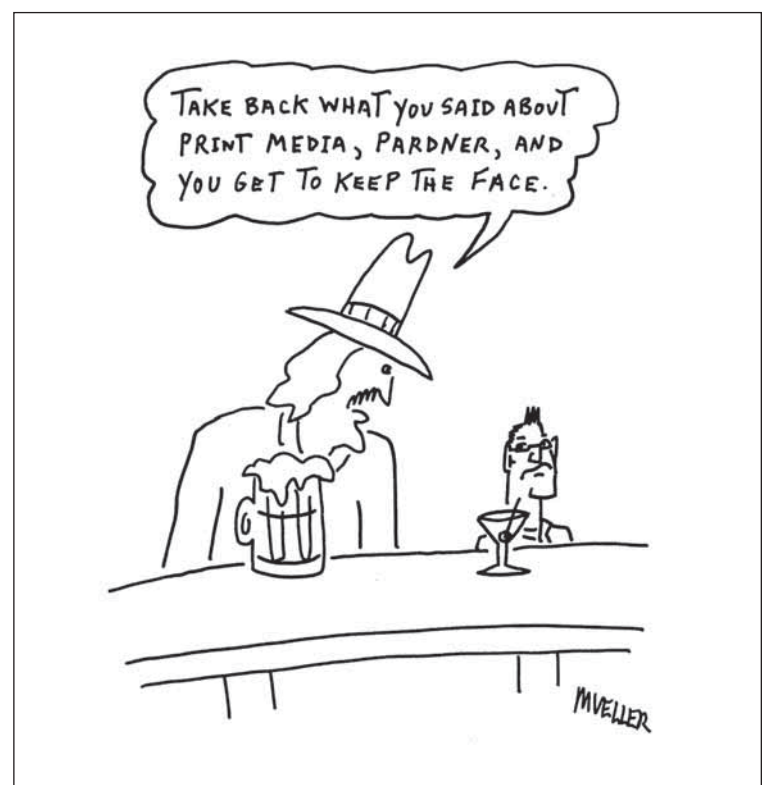
IT'S 'MTN.' NOT 'MT.'

Editor:

I've held this pet peeve in long enough. If you must abbreviate Mountain View, it should be Mtn. View, not Mt. View.

Mt. means Mount, as in Mt. Everest. Mtn. means Mountain, as in Mtn. Winery. When writing about our town, write it out or use Mtn. View when abbreviating. Even M.V. is more acceptable than Mt.

Denley Rafferty
Cypress Point Drive



■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

■ MOVIE TIMES

■ BEST BETS FOR ENTERTAINMENT



The "raw fettuccine" at the Loving Hut features raw celery root with collard greens and other vegetables in a creamy almond sauce.

VERONICA WEBER

■ RESTAURANT REVIEW

The little vegan that could

PALO ALTO'S LOVING HUT CATERES TO THE HERBIVORES AMONG US

By Sheila Himmel

You don't have to be a vegan to love the Loving Hut. You do have to swallow some slightly scary save-the-planet propaganda with your soy proteins. "Be Veg. ... Go Green. Save the Planet" is the motto. Go, Team Vegan! If only eating right would turn the tide against global warming, who could argue?

A flat screen runs a silent stream of Supreme Master TV, the 40-seat Palo Alto restaurant's main design element.

Supreme Master, out of Southern California, beams "24-hour uplifting news and inspirational programs." Supreme TV epitomizes the phrase "It's all good."

Perhaps there have been snickers about the Taiwan-based chain's choice of name. It is meant to convey loving all the animals, and a traditional Asian bamboo hut.

Each of the world's 25 Loving Huts is a little different. Some

► Continued on next page



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VERONICA WEBER

Sunny Mueller, general manager of the Loving Hut in Palo Alto, brings out a meal to a customer in the restaurant.

► Continued from previous page

are a little fancier than the Palo Alto location, with its prefab furniture and pretzel-shaped yellow logo overhead. The more elaborate ones also have separate lunch and dinner menus. In Milpitas, the first stop on the growing chain's U.S. tour, the menu is more Asian. Where Palo Alto's favorite dish is the avocado

eggplant, carrots and onions for a meat-like chewy texture. The potato crust is creamy inside. Most of the entrees come with your choice of soup or salad.

I'd argue that the entree called Raw Fettuccine (\$12.95) is really a salad. Although the dish is very pretty, your digestive system may have an ugly reaction to accepting such a load of raw vegetables at once. In place of

Many of the dishes are visual and textural symphonies.

BLT, Milpitas serves Szechwan eggplant, Thai soup and pho, the Vietnamese noodle soup.

On the avocado BLT (\$8.95), the part of the B is played by paprika-smoked tempeh. It doesn't come close to the texture of bacon. But the strips of fermented soybean cake are heavily seasoned with maple syrup and salt, so if you haven't had bacon in a long time, maybe this could do it for you.

Another popular dish, shepherd's pie (\$8.95) honors its British origins as a way to use leftover meat. But instead of being made with the traditional lamb or mutton, this pie uses crumbled soy,

pasta noodles, there are curlies of raw celery root.

My advice is to split the salad and get an accompaniment of Seven Seas Rice (\$5.50), warmly dressed in lemon sauce. The seven are nutty brown rice, roasted pine nuts, flecks of salty nori seaweed, bell peppers, greens, cucumber and sesame seeds. It is, as advertised, "very harmonious."

Many of the dishes are visual and textural symphonies. The Loving Hut Salad (\$8.95) is a bright, attractive composition of seasonal fruit, sweet peas, corn, chickpeas,

► See **LOVING HUT**, page 16

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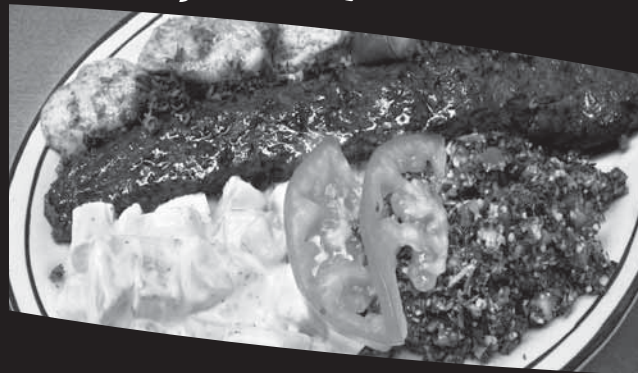
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The Loving Hut salad, left, and the shepherd's pie, right.

VERONICA WEBER

LOVING HUT

► Continued from page 15

dried cranberries and pistachios atop crisp organic lettuce.

But this is a very limited menu. For starters, your choice is fresh but otherwise expensive Vietnamese-style spring rolls (\$5.50) and Crumbled Sensation (\$7.95). Crumbled Sensa-

tion is the Loving Hut version of Buffalo wings, fried shrimp or Indian fritters. These are yams in yam-flour batter, deep-fried and served with mayo-free tartar sauce and a refreshing mound of cole slaw.

If you must have dessert, have a fresh fruit muffin (\$3.50). It's a little spongy, but tasty and topped with a streusel crust. Egg-free flan (\$2.95) is

toothache-sweet and has serious texture issues. Chocolate tofu ice cream (\$3.50) and mango sorbet (\$6.50) are like astronaut or camping desserts.

Everyone who works at Loving Hut is a vegan. If all you know about vegans is that they shun all animal products, Loving Hut serves a purpose. It helps answer the question "What do vegans eat, anyway?" ■

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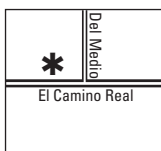
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MOUNTAIN VIEW VOICE Movies

There's plenty of Best Picture buzz these days about "Slumdog Millionaire," director Danny Boyle's tale of an unlikely game-show champion in Mumbai. Reviewers are raving on the Peninsula, too. All three of our main film critics, Jeanne Aufmuth, Tyler Hanley and Susan Tavernetti, put "Slumdog Millionaire" on their lists for the top 10 movies of 2008.

Although no other movie is on all the lists, two out of three critics agreed on several films, including "Milk" and "Rachel Getting Married." There's lots of Oscar humming here as well: Sean Penn for Best Actor? Anne Hathaway (who had quite a year) for Best Actress?

Then there are the more unusual pronouncements. Many reviewers loved Clint

COUNTDOWN TO THE OSCARS

AS ACADEMY AWARDS APPROACH, OUR CRITICS LIST THEIR BEST AND WORST FILMS OF 2008



Eastwood's "Gran Torino," but Aufmuth put it on her "panned" list. And Hanley called "Iron Man" — not your emblematic Oscar pick — the second-best movie of the year.

Will Oscar agree with our critics? We'll get an idea on Jan. 22, when the award nominees are announced, and find out for sure at the awards ceremony on Feb. 22.

The winsome robot WALL-E also gets some kudos: Hanley has chosen him as one of 2008's best cinematic heroes.

JEANNE AUFMUTH'S PICKS

10. FUNNY GAMES — This shocking, uncompromising thriller was a visceral and disturbing homage to the classic "theater of cruelty." Ruthless, infuriating and unbearably provocative, "Games" rested so heavily on tenterhooks of guilt that an apology was in order for admiring it.

9. SNOW ANGELS — Every step was an anticipation of the next in David Gordon Green's exacting examination of human frailty. As the master of moods, Green wasted no time in establishing the bitter demons lurking at the periphery of his protagonists' cynical dreams, utilizing a barren, wintry landscape to emphasize frosty feelings and sinister psyches.

8. I'VE LOVED YOU SO LONG — With a wisp of heartache etched onto her glorious but careworn face, Kristin Scott Thomas delivered thespian gold in Philippe Claudel's moody French classic. Emotional isolation met aloof appeal, yielding lilting crescendos of hope, redemption and despair.

7. REVOLUTIONARY ROAD — Through a series of deft flashbacks director Sam Mendes built a tough case for suburban ennui in this acrimonious examination of domestic gloom: a sometimes quiet, sometimes rage-filled unraveling of dignity, pride and shallow sense of self. Husband and wife bleed dissatisfaction and a hopeless emptiness both rhythmic and ravaged.

6. THE VISITOR — Consummate character actor Richard Jenkins painted a portrait of the classic lonely widower with broad, poignant strokes: the lovely renewal of an isolated

TYLER HANLEY'S PICKS

10. DEFINITELY, MAYBE — There's no maybe about this heartfelt "mystery/love story" from "French Kiss" screenwriter Adam Brooks. The excellent cast (including Ryan Reynolds, Abigail Breslin, Rachel Weisz and Kevin Kline) exhibits an infectious cinematic chemistry. Brooks' charming script couples a child's wide-eyed curiosity with a father's jaded memory, embracing both hope and honesty.

9. WANTED — Russian director Timur Bekmambetov's first American feature is a bold example of his vibrant imagination. Simultaneously groundbreaking and jaw-dropping, "Wanted" is one of the best action movies of the past decade. Stunning visual effects, an A-list cast and an edgy script based on comic scribe Mark Millar's in-your-face graphic novel click together like a finely tuned engine.

8. CHARLIE BARTLETT — Anton Yelchin shines as the wise-beyond-his-years title character, and Gustin Nash's clever script is sharp. Strong supporting performances from Robert Downey Jr. as a principal struggling with alcoholism and Hope Davis as Charlie's medicated mother add to the appeal. Although this indie sleeper slipped under the radar, it emerged as one of the year's best. Intoxicating.

7. DOUBT — Does Meryl Streep have any space on the mantel for another Oscar? Streep will go toe-to-toe with "Rachel Getting Married" star Anne Hathaway for Best Actress after delivering this nuanced portrayal of a callous nun. Director John Patrick Shanley aptly adapts his Broadway play, with underlying messages about

SUSAN TAVERNETTI'S PICKS

10. THE VISITOR — Richard Jenkins wonderfully portrays a world-weary academic who gets back into the rhythm of life thanks to an illegal immigrant couple found living in his little-used Manhattan apartment. Tom McCarthy's indie film of friendship, political activism and personal renewal — all fostered by the beat of African drums — criticizes the Kafkaesque U.S. immigration procedures in a post-9/11 world.

9. MILK — Sean Penn won't need to shout, "My name is Harvey Milk, and I'm here to recruit you," to Oscar voters. In another astonishing performance, he slips convincingly into the skin — and three-piece suits — of San Francisco's unofficial mayor of Castro Street and first openly gay supervisor. Director Gus Van Sant's biopic captures the man who personified the gay civil rights movement in the 1970s, and the issues resonate today in light of the passage of California's Proposition 8.

8. RACHEL GETTING MARRIED — Charged with energy and a blistering performance by Anne Hathaway, Jonathan Demme's edgy drama dives fearlessly into the wedding-almost-gone-wrong genre. The home-video look perfectly suits the maelstrom of family dynamics unleashed when Hathaway's narcissistic character, newly released from rehab, goes home to attend her sister's wedding. This time the devil doesn't wear Prada but does set the big screen ablaze.

7. VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA — A pair of not-so-innocents abroad cross paths and philosophical musings with Spanish firebrands Javier Bar-

DO-GOODERS VS. EVILDOERS

BY TYLER HANLEY

CINEMA'S TOP HEROES AND VILLAINS OF 2008 RANGE FROM ANITA TO ZOHAN

The year-that-was offered film fans a plethora of noble protagonists and sinister miscreants to cheer and jeer. Familiar heroes such as Indiana Jones and James Bond returned to the silver screen, while actor Heath Ledger's Oscar-worthy portrayal made The Joker the most memorable villain of the past decade.

Here are a few of the characters who gained our admiration or provoked our ire in 2008, as chosen by film critic Tyler Hanley.

HEROES



■ **AGENT 99** (*Anne Hathaway*), "Get Smart" — She helped compensate for her awkward partner's clumsiness with enviable courage and flexibility.

■ **ALEXANDRA ROVER** (*Jodie Foster*), "Nim's Island" — The agoraphobic author conquered her own anxiety and crossed continents to help a distressed young girl on an isolated island.

■ **HARVEY MILK** (*Sean Penn*), "Milk" — Threats, degradation and prejudice couldn't deter this inspirational San Francisco supervisor from pursuing his goal: equality.



■ **INDIANA JONES** (*Harrison Ford*), "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull" — The whip-smart adventurer battered down the age barrier and helped quash a Soviet power grab with extraterrestrial repercussions.

■ **JAMAL MALIK** (*Dev Patel*), "Slumdog Millionaire" — This quiet hero persevered through the slums of Mumbai and game-show torture to reunite

with his lifelong love.

■ **JAMES BOND** (*Daniel Craig*), "Quantum of Solace" — Britain's shaken-not-stirred super spy defied gravity and his superiors to dismantle a greedy criminal syndicate.

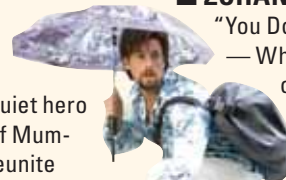
■ **RHINO** (*voice of Mark Walton*), "Bolt" — This lion-hearted hamster was a steadfast companion and demonstrated boundless courage from the confines of a plastic ball.



■ **TONY STARK** (*Robert Downey Jr.*), "Iron Man" — Empathy and steely resolve transformed this arrogant playboy into a selfless, high-flying hero.

■ **WALL-E** (*voice of Ben Burtt*), "WALL-E" — This lonely little robot of very few words embarked on a deep-space love quest and saved humanity in the process.

■ **ZOHAN DVIR** (*Adam Sandler*), "You Don't Mess with the Zohan" — Who says a hairdresser can't be heroic? This Israeli freedom fighter took on sinister goons and split ends.



VILLAINS

■ **ANITA BRYANT** (*herself*), "Milk" — Anyone who adamantly encourages bigotry and persecution in the name of God deserves a place on the villains list.

■ **EMIL BLONSKY** (*Tim Roth*), "The Incredible Hulk" — After this blood-thirsty mercenary mutated into the monstrous Abomination, only the Hulk could end its violent rampage.



■ **GENERAL FRIEDRICH FROMM** (*Tom Wilkinson*), "Valkyrie" — This treacherous Nazi feigned loyalty to the German Resistance. His indecision cost lives.

■ **HARRY WATERS** (*Ralph Fiennes*), "In Bruges" — Violence and intimidation were the only answers for this temperamental crime boss who literally threw friendship aside.

■ **LES GROSSMAN** (*Tom Cruise*), "Tropic Thunder" — The foul-mouthed, out-of-shape producer emphatically (and hilariously) put profit and publicity above the wellbeing of an actor held hostage.

■ **PRINCE NUADA** (*Luke Goss*), "Hell-

boy II: The Golden Army" — This pale, sword-wielding warrior wanted nothing less than complete extinction of the human race.

■ **SLOAN** (*Morgan Freeman*), "Wanted" — An unscrupulous leader who manipulated the assassins in his charge to kill under the guise of a "noble cause."

■ **TAI LUNG** (*voice of Ian McShane*), "Kung Fu Panda" — A prison guarded by rhinos couldn't contain this snap-kicking snow leopard and his lust for power.

■ **THE JOKER** (*Heath Ledger*), "The Dark Knight" — Ledger's final performance turned this classic Batman villain into a maniacal, tortured cinematic icon for the ages.



■ **WARDEN HENNESSEY** (*Joan Allen*), "Death Race" — She framed an innocent man for murder and locked him away in a brutal prison, all for the sake of blood-soaked "entertainment."



AUFMUTH

▶ Continued from page 17

economics professor into a graceful, compassionate soul who opened his heart to the possibility.

5. MAN ON WIRE — With breathtaking harmony James Marsh balanced tempo, humor and passion in the retelling of high-wire artist Philippe Petit's stunning walk across New York's City's Twin Towers. The beauty of this dazzling documentary was felt in the harmony and lithe attitude of a cheerful and ego-centric Frenchman so consumed by his own fate that it exacted a profound toll on those who stood by him.

4. MY WINNIPEG — In the bitter darkness of Canada's sleepy Winnipeg, director Guy Maddin narrated a home-spun anti-ode to the place of his birth. Thick furry frost coated the city with frigid tenacity while its residents, the ultimate citizens of the night, squeezed snowflakes of bliss from its cottony cold. Black arteries and white lights: a place with no beginning and no end.

3. RACHEL GETTING MARRIED — Jonathan Demme directed this wildly engaging journey into the foundations of friction and family dysfunction — paired with Jenny Lumet's graceful and spontaneous scripting — with the subtlety of a heat-seeking missile. Anne Hathaway was pitch-perfect as a recovering addict-cum-narcissist who used the rituals of matrimony as a breeding ground for her scathing wit and indictments of family and friends. The quips came fast and furious, but

never overshadowed the foundation of friction that spoke to dark demons.

2. HAPPY-GO-LUCKY — The king of keen observations on the British working class, Mike Leigh crafted a spare, plotted series of vignettes around an irrepressible leading lady for whom lemons became lemonade each and every day, masking a bruised soul that her singleton self stoutly refused to acknowledge. Morally authentic and perpetually propitious, the lively rhythms of "Happy" and their buoyant heroine were a welcome breath of fresh air.

1. SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE — Danny Boyle directed with unwavering homage to India's teeming favelas and one young man's steadfast quest for the ubiquitous brass ring. The crazy kaleidoscope of craft and color was vibrant with revulsion yet pulsating with principled promise, most notably for the enchanting and resilient poppet prophets of the ghettos.

Jeanne Aufmuth's pans

- **Australia** — File this one under high expectations denied. Baz Luhrmann was handed the golden key to Oz and got it stuck in the lock.
- **The Fall** — Egregious visual panoply that positively choked on its own abstract symbolism.
- **Gran Torino** — Clint Eastwood's stale tale of a cantankerous Korean War vet whose Hmong neighbor melts his heart may have signaled the beginning of the end for Clint.
- **The Happening** — M. Night Shyamalan lost his mojo and barely raised a pulse in his sophomoric take on the classic paranoid thriller. Sans thrills.

HANLEY

▶ Continued from page 17

morality, faith and suspicion. Subtle and powerful.

6. MAN ON WIRE — Documentary filmmaker James Marsh masterfully recounts the breathtaking feat of French tightrope walker Philippe Petit, who crossed the expanse between the World Trade Center towers in 1974. Petit's tale is both inspirational and cautionary, evoking a sense of frightened wonder. A shoo-in for the Best Documentary Oscar.

5. WALL-E — Love is the battery that fuels this beautifully animated film from the genius digital mechanics at Pixar. The title character is an adorable protagonist and his quest for companionship tugs at the heartstrings. The relationship that develops between WALL-E and plant-seeking robot EVE is delightful, while a subplot about the possible future of humanity feels alarmingly accurate.

4. IN BRUGES — Humor, suspense and drama intertwine effortlessly in writer/director Martin McDonagh's edgy crime flick. Terrific performances by leads Colin Farrell, Brendan Gleeson and Ralph Fiennes charge McDonagh's witty dialogue. Remorse and redemption underscore the characters and their violent world, while the historic

• **The Women** — An endless parade of verbal chestnuts peppered this heavily cliched remake, which is best left untouched.

landscape of Bruges is a visual feast.

3. SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE

— The year's most pleasant surprise, "Slumdog" features an incredibly smart script and stellar performances from a handful of unfamiliar faces. Leading man Dev Patel is remarkable and director Danny Boyle helms with thoughtful expertise. Strong character development, consistent pacing and a taut climax will likely push this dark horse to the front of the Oscar pack.

2. IRON MAN — Marvel Comics' golden avenger blasts onto the silver screen with all of the high-octane action and special effects one would expect from a superhero film. Unexpected are the A-list cast and acting (Robert Downey Jr. is exceptional as industrialist Tony Stark), tons of well-timed humor and a director (Jon Favreau) who demonstrates an appreciation and fidelity for the character's comic-book roots.

1. MILK — Thanks to a powerhouse performance by perennial Oscar magnet Sean Penn and considerate direction from an auteur (Gus Van Sant) who cares about the subject matter, "Milk" gets top honors. Supporting actors — especially Palo Alto's own James Franco — serve up courageous, sincere performances. One of those rare films that forces you to think beyond buttered popcorn and consider broad issues, such as prejudice, equality and freedom. Does a body good.

Tyler Hanley's pans

• **10,000 B.C.** — A stampede of special effects can't mask the lowbrow screenwriting and fossilized

TAVERNETTI

▶ Continued from page 17

dem and Penelope Cruz. Influenced more by Ingmar Bergman than Antoni Gaudi, Woody Allen's inviting and invigorating film offers an off-screen narrator, "Persona"-like doublings and love triangles to set the American girlfriends on the road to self-discovery.

6. THE COUNTERFEITERS — Austrian writer-director Stefan Ruzowitzky won last year's foreign-language Oscar for this white-knuckle drama based on a real-life event: Jewish concentration camp prisoners forging British pound notes and U.S. dollars with which the Nazis intend to destabilize the Allied economies. What price survival? Played out among Holocaust horrors, incarcerated idealists — intent on sabotaging the Nazi scam — match wits and forgery skills against those determined to survive at any cost.

5. WALL-E — Director Andrew Stanton's almost dialogue-free opening has plenty to say. Given the depiction of

performances. Ugh!

- **In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale** — A rubber-faced Burt Reynolds plays the king. Yep, it's that bad.
- **Jumper** — I'd rather spend two hours jumping on a busted trampoline than sit through this dizzying spectacle again.
- **Over Her Dead Body** — Throw a toetag on this comedy flop.
- **Untraceable** — It's like "Saw" meets "The Net" — nauseating for the digital age.



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a dystopian Earth, kids haven't had the opportunity to be this traumatized since Bambi lost his mother. But Pixar's animated adventure stars the most lovable garbage-compacting robot who picks up a love interest, a cause and hope along the way. Gloriously inventive and technologically stunning, "WALL-E" has a big green heart.

4. THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON — A story about a man who ages backwards sounds like a gimmick. It's not. Eric Roth's mature screenplay allows Brad Pitt's Benjamin Button to see and be seen differently than ordinary people. A technological tour de force, David Fincher's film about love and loss has an understated eloquence, inclusive spirit and melancholy soul.

3. FROST/NIXON — Moisture on Richard Nixon's lip during televised debates might have cost him the 1960 presidential election. It won't make him lose the sympathy vote in director Ron Howard's slick adaptation of Peter Morgan's stage play, based on the interviews between the Brit TV host and the disgraced former leader. Michael Sheen/Frank Langella face off as the title characters in this incisive, entertaining drama that puts Tricky Dick in the hot seat.

2. WALTZ WITH BASHIR — Israeli writer-director Ari Folman proves that animation isn't just for kids anymore. His haunting animated feature about the shock-and-awe that war inflicts on the human psyche unspools like a fever dream in hallucinatory

images and vivid hues. Representing Israel's collective amnesia, Folman and his friends must sift through their blocked memory banks to separate historical fact from fancy. Only then can they confront their role in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon and the subsequent Sabra and Shatila refugee camp massacres — in hopes such violence will never happen again.

1. SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE — British director Danny Boyle packages the plight of the Mumbai orphans and their quest for survival into a pulse-pounding game show format. The cinematic version of "Everything I Ever Needed to Know I Learned in the Slums" emerges as the year's most affecting film. How did he do it? A. He cheated (crafting an engrossing love and rags-to-riches story that only reminds viewers at the end that the fairytale finale is, unfortunately, "only a movie"). B. He's lucky (to have cast sympathetic London star Dev Patel in the lead role). C. He's a genius (with a signature visual style and the ability to insert challenging subject matter into crowd-pleasing genres). D. It is written (in Vikas Swarup's novel and Simon Beaufoy's smart script).

Susan Tavernetti's pans

• **Swing Vote** — Producer-actor Kevin Costner's comedy stupidly celebrates the transformation of an out-of-work loser into a "civic-minded" citizen. No one involved with this movie seems to realize that his swing vote constitutes voter fraud and a felony. Some poster boy for democracy. ❑

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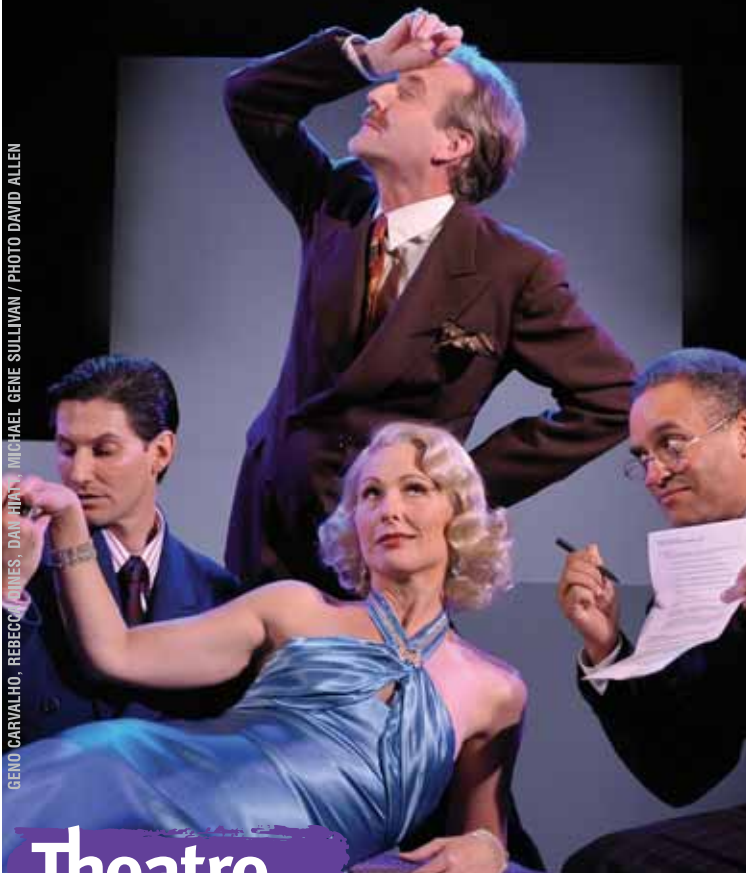
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MOVIE TIMES

BEDTIME STORIES (PG) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:20, 4:10, 7:20 & 9:45 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45 & 10:15 p.m.

BRIDE WARS (PG) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 12:40, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40 & 10 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 12:05, 2:40, 4:55, 7:10 & 9:25 p.m.

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON (PG-13) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 12:50, 4:35 & 8:05 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:45 a.m.; 3:15, 6:45 & 10:15 p.m.

DEFIANCE (R) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 12:45, 3:50, 7 & 10:05 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 1, 4:10, 7:15 & 10:20 p.m.

DOUBT (PG-13) ★★★ Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:15 a.m.; 1:45, 4:25 & 6:55 p.m. Palo Alto Square: 2, 4:45 & 7:30 p.m. Fri. & Sat. also at 10:05 p.m.

FROST/NIXON (R) ★★★★★ Century 16: Fri. & Tue.-Thu. at 11:15 a.m.; 1:45, 4:25 & 6:55 p.m. Century 20: 11:10 a.m.; 1:55, 4:50, 7:40 & 10:30 p.m.

GRAN TORINO (R) ★1/2 Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:15, 4:05, 6:55 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: 12:20, 1:55, 3:10, 6, 7:20 & 8:50 p.m.

HOTEL FOR DOGS (PG) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:40, 4:20, 7:15 & 9:40 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30 & 9:55 p.m.

LAST CHANCE HARVEY (PG-13) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55 & 10:20 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 12:10, 2:35, 5, 7:25 & 9:50 p.m.

MARLEY & ME (PG) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 12:55, 3:55, 6:50 & 9:30 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:15 a.m.; 2, 4:40, 7:30 & 10:10 p.m.

METROPOLITAN OPERA: LA RONDINE ENCORE (NOT RATED) Century 16: Wed. at 7 p.m. Century 20: Wed. at 7 p.m.

MILK (R) ★★★ Century 20: 1:05, 4:05, 7:05 & 9:55 p.m. Sat. also at 10:15 a.m. Palo Alto Square: Fri.-Sat. & Mon.-Tue. at 1:30, 4:25 & 7:20 p.m. Sun. also at 10:15 a.m.

MY BLOODY VALENTINE (R) Century 16: Fri. & Sat. at 1:30, 4, 7 & 9:30 p.m. Sun. - Tue. & Thu. at 12:30, 3, 5:30, 8 & 10:30 p.m. Century 20: 12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55 & 10:30 p.m.

NOT EASILY BROKEN (PG-13) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 4:45 & 9:40 p.m.

NOTORIOUS (R) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1, 4:15, 7:05 & 9:55 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 1:20, 4:30, 7:45 and 10:35 p.m. Sun. also at 10:30 a.m.

PAUL BLART: MALL COP (PG) Century 16: Fri.-Thu. at 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:25 a.m.; 1:50, 4:30, 7:15 & 9:35 p.m.

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD (R) ★★★1/2 Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:40 a.m.; 2:25, 5:10, 7:55 & 10:40 p.m. Guild: Fri.-Sun. at 1, 4, 7 & 9:45 p.m. Mon.-Thu. at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.

SEVEN POUNDS (PG-13) ★★1/2 Century 16: 1:40 & 4:30 p.m. Fri.-Wed. also at 7:20 & 10:10 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 7:35 & 10:25 p.m.

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE (R) ★★★★★ Century 20: 11:10 a.m.; 2, 4:45, 7:35 & 10:20 p.m. Aquarius: 2:30, 4, 5:30, 7, 8:30 & 9:40 p.m.

THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX (G) ★★★ Century 20: 11:30 a.m.; 1:50 & 4:20 p.m.

TWILIGHT (PG-13) Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 10 p.m.

THE UNBORN (PG-13) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:45, 4:30, 7:35 & 9:50 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 12:35, 3, 5:30, 8:10 & 10:40 p.m.

VALKRYIE (PG-13) ★★★1/2 Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:55, 4:40, 7:25 & 10:15 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:35 a.m.; 2:20, 5:05, 7:50 & 10:35 p.m.

THE WRESTLER (R) ★★★ Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:50, 4:25, 7:45 and 10:25 p.m.

YES MAN (PG-13) Century 16: Fri.-Tue. & Thu. at 1:35 & 7:10 p.m. Century 20: Fri.-Tue. at 11:25 a.m.; 4:45 & 10:25 p.m.

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★ Skip it
★★ Some redeeming qualities
★★★ A good bet
★★★★ Outstanding

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MOVIE REVIEWS

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON

★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) In early-century Louisiana an unusual child is born. The baby looks like a wizened old man and isn't expected to live. With the persistent nurturing of boarding house doyenne Queenie (Taraji P. Henson), baby Benjamin beats the odds and continues to thrive, so well that he appears to grow younger as he advances in years. Benjamin's meeting with 7-year-old Daisy (Elle Fanning) has a profound effect on his life, her presence a stabilizing force that ebbs and flows throughout the years. Benjamin and the adult Daisy (Cate Blanchett) inexplicably meet halfway on the age spectrum — on her way to the graceful golden years and his to ultimate youth — a joyous and profoundly sad state of affairs. *Rated: PG-13 for brief violence, sexual content and language. 2 hours, 47 minutes. — J.A.*

DOUBT ★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) There is no doubt that Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams and Viola Davis are the three best reasons to see John Patrick Shanley's adaptation of his Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning drama. If acting for the screen is truly about reacting, then their naturalistic and nuanced performances help counter Meryl Streep's more mannered turn that rings so false at the end. Shanley's examination of moral issues is another good reason to catch the battle between razor-tongued Sister Aloysius (Streep) and congenial Father Flynn (Hoffman), whom she suspects of pedophilia. No evidence exists that the priest has behaved inappropriately with the parochial high school's first black student (Joseph Foster). The narrative construct teeters on the concept of reasonable doubt — and the blindness and intolerance of those making unjustified accusations. Or are they? *Rated: PG-13 for thematic material. 1 hour, 44 minutes. — S.T.*

FROST/NIXON ★★★★★

(Century 16, Century 20) An overly confident "Tricky Dick" Nixon accepts "entertainer" David Frost's invitation to televise a series of interviews in 1977 — for the right price. The stakes are high for both the disgraced former president and the underrated television talk-show host. "Frost/Nixon" is more psychological cat-and-mouse game than verbal sparring match. Ron Howard directs the film at a breakneck clip, pausing only to reveal glimpses into each man's character. Engrossing emotionally and intellectually, this showdown shouldn't be missed. *Rated: R for some language. 2 hours, 2 minutes. — S.T.*

GRAN TORINO ★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Clint Eastwood stars and directs himself as cantankerous Korean War vet Walt Kowalski with a chip on his shoulder the size of the Matterhorn. He lives alone and has no relationship to speak of with his adult sons. Walt appears to be surrounded on all sides by Hmong families who keep to themselves and their own cultural curiosities. Until a neighborhood teen named Thao (Bee Vang) finds himself with a debt of honor to repay

Weekend

after he attempts to steal Walt's prized, cherry-condition 1972 Gran Torino. Walt puts Thao to work in his home and yard, grudgingly handing over small odd jobs and offering manly advice on testosterone and tools. A relationship blossoms as Walt breaks out of his shell and Thao feels admiration for the father figure he never had (groan). Overall, a poorly acted and heavily cliched melodrama. *Rated: R for language and violence. 1 hour, 56 minutes.* — J.A.

REVOLUTIONARY ROAD ★★★1/2

(Guild, Century 20) Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio are literally at each other's throats as April and Frank Wheeler, the classic 1950s golden couple who suddenly find the luster lost from their white-picket-fence union. Through a series of deft flashbacks director Sam Mendes builds a story of suburban ennui, a stifling boredom compounded by two kids and dead-end jobs. The build-up gains slow momentum but once "Road" finds its rhythm it's positively devastating. *Rated: R for language and nudity. 1 hour, 59 minutes.* — J.A.

VALKYRIE ★★★1/2

(Century 16, Century 20) Tom Cruise teams with auteur Bryan Singer for this gripping suspense/drama about the attempted assassination of Adolf Hitler in 1944 Nazi Germany. Cruise spearheads a spectacular cast as Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg, a confident soldier and family man suffering from the physical and emotional effects of service under Hitler's maniacal leadership. Eager to raise his children in a Hitler-less Germany, where fear and the fury of war don't blanket the country like a black cloud, von Stauffenberg sides with a handful of high-ranking German generals to scheme Hitler's downfall. Surreptitiously the German Resistance begins to plan the execution of Project Valkyrie, an emergency protocol intended to shift military power away from the SS following Hitler's death. *Rated: PG-13 for violence and brief strong language. 2 hours.* — T.H.

THE WRESTLER ★★★

(Century 16) Mickey Rourke plays true to type as a washed-up wrestler perpetually on the verge of a comeback. Randy "The Ram" Robinson doesn't have a lot to live for save for the glory of his 1980s gladiator days. He moonlights at trade shows and wrestles in small halls by night, high on the memories of yesterday's adulation. He's estranged from his angry daughter (Evan Rachel Wood), eating painkillers like candy and living in relative squalor in a New Jersey trailer park. Randy befriends a warm-hearted stripper named Cassidy (Marisa Tomei) at his local club but she plays it cool and gently rebuffs his awkward advances. An unexpected medical condition is Randy's wake-up call, the kind of second chance that could be his last. The climax is the ultimate in raw conclusions, leaving a disheartening life in grim perspective. *Rated: R for violence, language, nudity and sexuality. 1 hour, 45 minutes.* — J.A.

MOVIE CRITICS

S.T.-Susan Tavernetti,
J.A.-Jeanne Aufmuth, T.H.-Tyler Hanley

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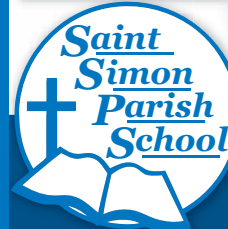
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■ HIGHLIGHT

"TWENTIETH CENTURY"

"Broadway ballyhoo meets Hollywood hustle aboard the legendary locomotive in this madcap battle of the sexes that's a send up of screwball comedy at its screwiest best," TheatreWorks says. Jan. 14-Feb. 8, Tue.-Wed. at 7:30 p.m., Thu.-Sat. at 8 p.m., Sun. at 2 and 7 p.m. \$21-64. Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St., Mountain View. theatreworks.org

ART GALLERIES

Guest Artists at Viewpoints Gallery

An exhibit of plein-air oil paintings by guest artists Carol Rafferty and Ed Bertolet. A reception at the gallery to meet the artists Jan. 10, 2-5 p.m. Exhibit runs through Jan. 30, Gallery hours 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Closes at 3 p.m. Sundays. Free. Viewpoints Gallery, 315 State St., Los Altos. www.viewpointsgallery.com

Women in Comics, Past & Present

Contemporary works by women artists: Kathy Aoki, Sabrina Jones, Lark Pien, Trina Robbins. Historical works from the collection of Trina Robbins. Sponsored by Heritage Bank of Commerce. Through Jan. 25, 3-7 p.m. No charge, donations accepted. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. www.arts4all.org/view

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Car-seat Safety Workshop - New Parents

In this Child Passenger Safety Workshop, learn car-seat safety, how to select the proper seat, installation tips, and the correct way to secure a child in a car seat. Thu., Jan. 22, 6-7 p.m. Free. Whole Foods, 4800 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 415-722-8851.

Cheese Please! Learn how to make mozzarella and chevre cheese. Ages 7 and up. Sat., Jan. 24, 3:30-5 p.m. \$15 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. <http://www.hiddenvilla.org/calendar.php>

Connecting with your child everyday

Join parenting coach Susan Stone Belton to learn why spending time with their child is the most important thing parents can do, and learn new communication techniques that help to develop close bonds. Tue., Jan. 20, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. City of Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin St., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6897. http://www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/library

How to improve your digestion

Workshop on natural solutions to digestion issues. Must call to confirm, 650-962-1036. Sat., Jan. 24, 10-11 a.m. Anew Health Center, 277 Castro St., Mountain View.

Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation

Introduction to the meditative development of mindfulness to focus all aspects of experience. Five-week course taught by Shaila Catherine, Sharon Allen & Margaret Gainer. Thursdays through Feb. 19, 7-9 p.m. free. St. Timothy's/Edwards Hall, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. <http://www.imsb.org>

Learn How to Tune & Wax Your Skis/Snowboard

"Easy turns, better grip, smooth glide - these are just a few of the benefits you'll experience, when your skis/snowboard are properly tuned and waxed. Join REI snow sports tech Robert Beronia for a demonstration of the steps in the tuning process," REI says. Wed., Jan. 21, 7-8:30 p.m. Free. REI Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Rd, Mountain View. Call 650-969-1938. www.rei.com/mountainview

Lecture and Book Signing

Whole Foods Market is hosting Sloan Barnett, author of "Green Goes with Everything". Sat., Jan. 17, 12:30 p.m. Free. Whole Foods Market, 4800 El Camino Real, Los Altos. Call 650-559-0300 ext. 260. www.wholefoods.com

Lip Reading /Managing Hearing Loss

These classes help hard of hearing people with or without hearing aids improve lip reading and gain other skills to ease hearing/communication problems. Friends and family members are welcome. Taught by CA licensed audiologist. 3 class times to choose

from. Mon. Jan. 5 to Wed. Mar. 25, 2009, 1:30-2:45 p.m. Foothill college tuition and fees. varied sites off campus, Mt. View, Palo Alto and Menlo Park. Call 650-949-7999 ext.4379.

Manure to Meadow to MMMM-mmm!

"What do worms, cow manure, and alfalfa all have in common? Ice Cream! Come explore this unusual question on a farm wide scavenger hunt. We'll use our new knowledge to make (and eat) some delicious ice cream using produce from the farm. For ages 6 and up. Location: Wolken Education Center," Hidden Villa says. Sun., Jan. 18, 2-5 p.m. \$15 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. <http://www.hiddenvilla.org/calendar.php>

Mushroom Hike

Learn how to identify common families of mushrooms. Wade Leschyn discusses both edible and poisonous varieties. Hikes are leisurely. No collecting, cameras encouraged. Hike contingent on weather. Space limited. Ages 10 and up only. Location: Kiosk by the main parking lot. Sat., Jan. 17, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. \$10 per person. Hidden Villa, 26870 Moody Road, Los Altos Hills. <http://www.hiddenvilla.org/calendar.php>

Navigating with National Geographic: Learn How to Use Your GPS with Map Software

"Jeff Caulfield of National Geographic Maps will show you, step-by-step, how to use your GPS with TOPO. Outdoor Recreation mapping software to plan your next day hike or backcountry adventure," REI says. 7-8:30 p.m. Free. REI Mountain View, 2450 Charleston Road, Mountain View. Call 650-969-1938. www.rei.com/mountainview

Real Estate investments seminar

Seminar to explain... i Why real estate is still the best investment to build wealth. i How to evaluate real estate investments. i Why Silicon Valley a bad place to invest. Tue. Jan. 20, 2008, 6:30-9:15 p.m. Free. Bank of America, 1001 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-305-1111. http://www.650and408homes.com/seminar_investing_form.html

Reasonable Accommodation & the Obama Administration

The nation's growing diversity of religious practices is sparking tension between employers and their employees. This session will discuss how companies can best: determine the appropriate accommodation, maintain confidentiality, and manage the related documentation. Wed., Jan. 28, 8 a.m.-9:45 p.m. \$45 non-members, \$25 members. Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, 2 Palo Alto Square, 3000 El Camino Real, Suite 700, Palo Alto. Call 609-919-1895 ext. 100. http://www.bdacademy.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=157

Super Weight Loss Workshop

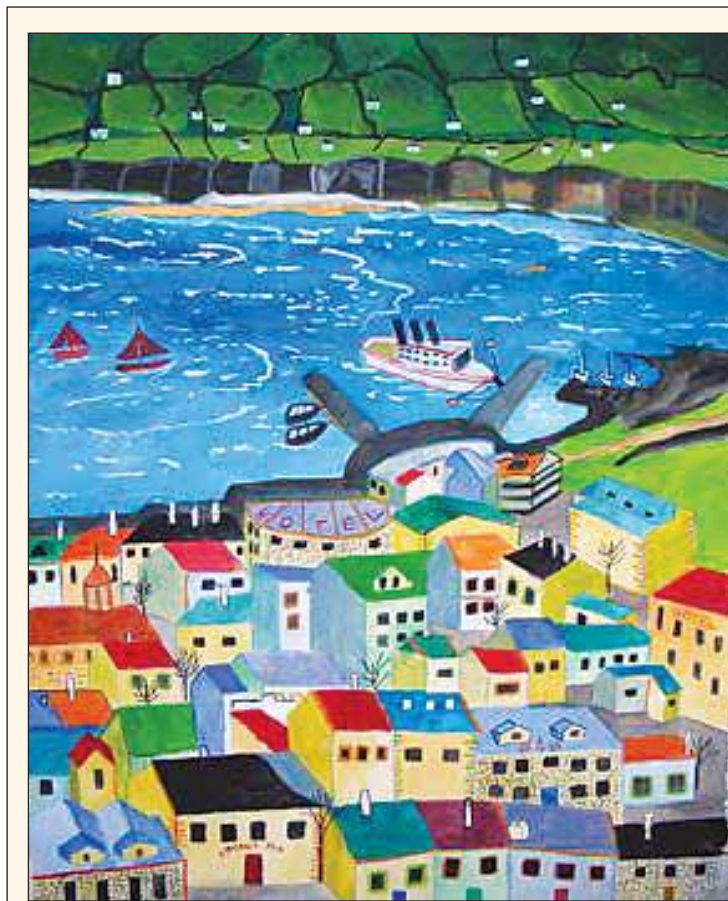
Presented By The Doctors Speakers Bureau. Guest speaker: Dr. Ron Bellistri, organic whole food liquid vitamin specialist. Tue., Jan. 20, 6:15-7:15 p.m. Free. Clock Tower Coffee, 425 N. Whisman Road #700, Mountain View. Call 650-962-0909.

Torah Study Parashat Vaera

We read and discuss the week's Torah portion on the fourth Saturday of each month. Bagels and coffee are provided. We have plenty of copies of the Torah text (in English!) available, but you are free to bring any English translation you enjoy. Sat. Jan. 24, 2009, 9:30 a.m.-noon \$5.00 suggested donation Kehillah Jewish High School, 3900 Fabian Way, Palo Alto. Call 650-494-6400. www.keddem.org

CLUBS/MEETINGS

Irish Gardens The De Anza Chapter of the American Rhododendron Society will feature a program by the San Carlos photographer Pamela J speaking on "A Festival of Flowers



"IRELAND" Recent paintings by Suej McCall on display through Jan. 31. The exhibit features landscapes, seascapes, and cityscapes of Ireland from Ms. McCall's recent travels to the country. Tue. - Sat. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun. noon-4 pm. Gallery 9, 143 Main St., Los Altos. www.gallery9losaltos.com

in Ireland, Through a Photographer's Eyes." Pamela J, the author of several books of floral art, will give tips on garden photography. Wed., Jan. 21, 7:30 p.m. Free. Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. Room 12, Los Altos. Call 650-964-7614.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Los Altos Library Book Sale Three-day book sale sponsored by Friends of the Los Altos Library. Fri., Jan. 23, Friends members only 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sat., Jan. 24, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sun., Jan. 25, noon to 3 p.m. Cash only. Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Call 650-948-7683. <http://losaltoslibraryfriends.org>

St. Joseph School Open House St. Joseph School will hold its annual Open House and Science/Art Fair Jan. 25. It is also accepting applications for the 2009/2010 school year. 12:15-2:15 p.m. Free. St. Joseph School, 1120 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-967-1839.

CONCERTS

Sandra Wright Shen, Classical Pianist An evening of compositions by Schumann, Haydn and more with this internationally acclaimed artist. Sponsored by Applied Materials. Thu., Jan. 29, 7-8 p.m. Donations accepted. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800. www.arts4all.org/calendar.htm

World Harmony Chorus, Friends & Family Concert Join members of this CSMA chorus as they share songs from

around the world. Mon., Jan. 26, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Donations accepted. Community School of Music and Arts (CSMA) at Finn Center, 230 San Antonio Circle, Mountain View. Call 650-917-6800. www.arts4all.org/calendar.htm

DANCE

English Country Dance Peninsula English Country Dance welcomes all, from beginners to experienced dancers. No partner needed, all dances taught. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Dance meets 1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesdays through June 2009. 8-10 p.m. \$9/\$7 members/\$5 students Flex-It Studio, 425 Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-493-6012.

English Country Dancing English Country Dance. Live music, no partner needed, all dances taught, comfortable clothes and shoes. 1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesdays through June. 8-10 p.m. \$9/\$7 members/\$5 students. Flex-It Studio, 425 Evelyn Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-224-5318. http://www.bacds.org/series/english/mountain_view/

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental Docent-Led Walks of Shoreline Learn about Shoreline at Mountain View's: maritime history; landfill legacy; environmental processes; ecosystems; birds, wildlife; and more. Walks depart from Rengstorff House and last about one hour on the 4th Sunday of every month. Bring/Wear: layered clothing, walking shoes, binoculars. No advanced reservations required. 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Rengstorff House, Shoreline at Mountain View, 3070 N. Shoreline Blvd.,

Mountain View. Call 650-903-6073. <http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us>

Tree Planting at Shoreline Park

Meet near the kite-flying area. Park at the first parking lot after the gate. No experience is required. Tools, trees and instruction is provided. Wear gardening clothes and bring work gloves. Children are welcome as long as there is one adult per child. Refreshments are provided. Sat., Jan. 24, 10 a.m.-noon. Free/no charge. Mountain View Trees, Shoreline Park in Mountain View, Shoreline Park. Call 650-450-0511. www.mountainviewtrees.org

FAMILY AND KIDS

MVPNS Open House Parents and children welcome at a Mountain View Parent Nursery School open house. MVPNS is a leading, NAEYC-accredited parent cooperative nursery school, where parents' involvement is key to creating the best early-childhood experience for their children. Sat. Jan. 17, 2009, 10 a.m.-noon Free. Mountain View Parent Nursery School, 1299 Bryant Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-969-9506. www.mvpns.org

PACT School Tour - Arts Focus The PACT School is a public magnet school accepting K-5 students from all districts, celebrating over 10 years of its innovating developmental, parent-participation model. Visit PACT classrooms during the school day. Meet at Castro School front office. Thu., Jan. 22, 2008, 9-10 a.m. Free. Mariano Castro School, 505 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. www.pactschool.net

Spanish Immersion Informational Coffee Coffee meeting to learn about the Spanish-English Immersion program at Castro Elementary, a tuition-free kindergarten to 5th-grade choice program in the MV-Whisman School District. Spots avail to entering K & first grade students. Meet current parents to ask questions and learn more. Thu., Jan. 22, 7-9 p.m. Free. Dana Street Roasting Company, 744 Dana St., Mountain View. Call 650-526-3590. <http://castro.mvwsd.org/>

HEALTH

South Asian Women's Heart Screening The South Asian Heart Center at El Camino Hospital will offer a specialized heart risk assessment for women Sat., Jan. 24, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. \$223 (up to \$150 discount with insurance coverage). South Asian Heart Center, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-940-7242. www.southasianheart-center.org

LIVE MUSIC

Didjeridoo Sound Healing Concert Didjeridoo artist, healer and musician Paradiso. Joining him will be special guests Bodhi (flute) and Kathleen Farrell (singing bowls). Sat., Jan. 24, \$15 in advance, \$20 day of event. East West Book Store, 324 Castro St., Mountain View. Call Paradiso. http://www.eastwest.com/january_events.html#24a

ON STAGE

The Circle "A young wife choosing between love and duty could learn a lesson from a sadder-but-wiser couple's once-hot affair. But does she? An Ibsenesque dilemma, served up with a dash of bracing British humor," The Pear Theater says. Jan. 9-Feb. 1, 8-10:30 p.m. \$12 - \$30. Pear Avenue Theatre, 1220 Pear Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-254-1148. www.thepear.org

**RELIGION/
SPIRITUALITY**

Insight Meditation South Bay Shaila Catherine and guest teachers lead a weekly Insight Meditation sitting followed by a talk on Buddhist teachings every Tuesday, 7:30-9 p.m. Free. St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, 2094 Grant Road, Mountain View. Call 650-857-0904. www.imsb.org

SENIORS

Cataracts Workshop Join Kristin Kelly from El Camino hospital. Sign up early at the front desk. Thu., Jan. 22, 1-2 p.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Mountain View Senior Center New-comer's Group An orientation and tour of the Senior Center includes a review of classes, upcoming events, social services & general information. Tue. Jan. 20, 2009, 11 a.m. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

Options for chronic pain Ilene Hurby discusses how nerve pain manifests itself into things such as back pain, "sciatic," etc. Sign up at the front desk. Thu., Jan. 29, 11 a.m.-noon. Free. Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-903-6330.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Burns Supper & Ceilidh Dance The South Bay Scottish Society will hold their annual Burns Supper on Jan. 17. The evening includes a Scottish dinner, poetry, music, dancing, and toasts to Robert Burns. 6-9:30 p.m. \$32 for members and \$38 for non-members. Burns Supper, 890 Church St., Mountain View. Call 408-554-9711 or 650-941-0214. www.southbayscots.org

Free Travel Faire Meet cruise and tour representatives and receive pricing, discounts and amenities. Cruises: Princess, Holland America, Oceania, Celebrity, Royal Caribbean, Seabourn, Silversea, Azamara. Land: Disney, A & K, Club Med, Hawaii World, Pleasant, Tours: Trafalgar, Brendan and Insight. Wed., Jan. 21, 5-6:30 p.m. Free. Masonic Building, 146 Main St., Los Altos. Call 650-941-5810. www.allhorizonstvl.com

TALKS/AUTHORS

NASA's LCROSS Mission on Lunar Exploration Anthony Colaprete of the NASA Ames Research Center will discuss the LCROSS Mission on Lunar Exploration, an illustrated, non-technical lecture, Wed., Jan. 21, 7-8:30 p.m. Admission is free; parking is \$2. Foothill College Smithwick Theatre, 12345 El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. http://www.foothill.edu

Project decelerators ... how to accelerate through them This talk will discuss an approach to accelerate through obstacles. Thu., Jan. 22, 7-9 p.m. \$20. Samovar Conference Hall, 1077 Independence Ave., Mountain View. Call 650-941-8464. http://www.meetup.com/CIO-IT-Executives/calendar/9471146/

U.S. Intelligence Lt. Col. Kevin Dixon, U.S. Air Force National Security Affairs Fellow, Stanford's Hoover Institution, on "Intelligence Challenges in a Changing World." Free public lecture Jan. 21. Co-sponsors: World Affairs Council - Peninsula, Los Altos Library. 7:30-9 p.m. Free. Los Altos Youth Center, 1 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos.

VOLUNTEERS

Junior Museum & Zoo Office volunteers are needed to help with fundraising, community relations and special events. Data input, mailings, internet research, etc. 8 a.m.-7 p.m. Free. Junior Museum & Zoo, 1451 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto. Call 650-

326-6338. www.friendsjnz.org

Literacy Tutoring Help a student develop his or her literacy skills! No writing or teaching experience is necessary, just a desire to help a youngster succeed. Mandatory volunteer training at the Castro School before and after classroom hour with students. Tue. Jan. 27 to Mar. 17, 2009, 8:45-10:45 a.m. Free. Mountain View-Los Altos Adult School, 333 Moffett Blvd., Mountain View. Call 650-940-6029. www.mvlaae.net

Vision Literacy Volunteer Orientation Jan 20 Learn about one-on-one and small group tutoring opportunities. Volunteer tutors need no prior experience, just a desire to help someone learn. Training and support are provided. Tue., Jan. 20, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, Los Altos. Call 408-262-

1349. www.visionliteracy.org

Volunteer for The American Cancer Society Become a Volunteer representative for Daffodil Days, a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society. A campaign kit assists you in promotion, taking orders and incentives for bouquets delivered to donors and cancer patients the week of March. Thu. Jan. 1 to Sat. Jan. 18, 2009, Your Workplace, Silicon Valley. Call 408-871-1062 (Option 3, ext. 250) . www.cancer.org/daffodilonline

■ MORE LISTINGS

For a complete listing of local events, see our website at www.PaloAltoOnline.com.

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Fixed rates for selected ages — examples only:

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For further information call Madeline Chaleff, director of gift planning, El Camino Hospital Foundation, at 650-940-7154. All inquiries are completely confidential and without obligation.

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2500 GRANT ROAD • MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94040
TEL: 650-940-7154 • FAX: 650-940-7144
www.elcaminohospital.org

NOTICE OF VACANCIES

VTA

Committee for Transit Accessibility

The Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority is seeking Santa Clara County residents to serve on its Committee for Transit Accessibility (CTA). The Committee for Transit Accessibility advises VTA's Board of Directors on matters related to accessible transit services for persons with disabilities.

Applications may be obtained by visiting VTA's website at www.vta.org or by calling the Office of the Board Secretary at 408-321-5680. Completed applications will be accepted until Friday, February 13, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

MTN. VIEW PUBLIC AUTO AUCTION

Saturday, January 17th • 10am

Preview: From 8am-Auction Saturday



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INDEX

- **BULLETIN BOARD** 100-199
- **FOR SALE** 200-299
- **KIDS STUFF** 330-399
- **MIND & BODY** 400-499
- **JOBS** 500-599
- **BUSINESS SERVICES** 600-699
- **HOME SERVICES** 700-799
- **FOR RENT/ FOR SALE REAL ESTATE** 800-899
- **PUBLIC/LEGAL NOTICES** 995-997

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WRITERS WANTED
The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 21 - Aug. 16, 2009) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in all-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit http://altjournalism.org. You may also email us at altacademy@northwestern.edu. Applications must be postmarked by Feb. 13, 2009. Northwestern University is an equal opportunity educator and employer. (AAN CAN)

Children's Choir downtown
Co-Dependents Anonymous (CoDA)

GU14 Players Wanted
Competitive Class 1 U14 girls team seeking a few impact players, including a keeper. Girls born after July 31st, 1994. If interested, please contact team manager at stevezuckerman@mpstrikers.com with a brief background of your soccer experience, or go to www.mpstrikers.com for more information about our club and our team (94G White).

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Art for kids
Back, Neck, or Joint Pain?
Birthday parties/Cooking classes

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Looking for a Book Group?
NATURE/OUTDOORS Events Calendar

Need help with your finances?
Polynesian Tiki Singles Dance

QUIT SMOKING, Nicotine Anonymous

Square Dance Lessons
Learn to Square Dance! Classes begin Monday, January 19, 2009 7:30 PM
Loyola School, Los Altos No partner required Information: 408-253-9387 or 650-390-9261

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Literacy Tutors in the Classroom

NASA cats need fosterers

Project LOOK! volunteers needed!

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PA: 3BR/2BA
FR, 2-car, refrig. Remodeled. Near Gunn. No pet. Yr lease. Avail now. \$3900/mo gwu@aprc.com

PA: 4BR/3BA
Lovely home located in cul-de-sac close to Gunn High. Living room, fire place, family room, french doors, dining room, nook, kitchen w/gas cook top, laundry room, gas dryer, alarm system, central vac, 2 zone heating air, garden, hot tub, gas BBQ, gardener incl. pets ok (650)269-1076 \$5800

Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,500

Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$2,300

Palo Alto, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1,850/mont

Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$2700.00

Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$2750

Palo Alto, 3 BR/2 BA - \$3500/mont

Palo Alto, 4 BR/2 BA - \$3500.00/m

Palo Alto, 5+ BR/3 BA
Newer, Big, CuDSac/5668038/\$8150

Palo Alto, 5+ BR/4+ BA
NEW 9BD*6.5BA/\$9800*5668038

Poltola Valley, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$ 16,500

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2900

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$3,500.00

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2,700/mo

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$2900

San Carlos, 2 BR/2 BA - \$1,800.

Woodside, 1 BR/2 BA
Skyline, gorgeous, private, views, decks, fpic, 2 car garage, ns, \$3200/month, 650-851-3876 evenings

Woodside, 4 BR/4+ BA
Luxurious estate home on 3 acres. Pool, gardens, privacy. Ed Kahl, agent, 650-400-2796

Woodside, 4 BR/3.5 BA - \$9,000

Woodside, 4 BR/4+ BA
Luxurious estate home on 3 acres. Pool, gardens, privacy. Ed Kahl, agent, 650-400-2796

Woodside, 4 BR/4+ BA
Luxurious estate home on 3 acres. Pool, gardens, privacy. Ed Kahl, agent, 650-400-2796

Woodside, 4 BR/4+ BA
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Woodside, 4 BR/4+ BA
Luxurious estate home on 3 acres. Pool, gardens, privacy. Ed Kahl, agent, 650-400-2796

809 Shared Housing/Rooms

ALL AREAS - ROOMMATES.COM.
Browse hundreds of online listings with photos and maps. Find your roommate with a click of the mouse! Visit: <http://www.Roommates.com>. (AAN CAN)

Mtn View, 2 BR/1 BA - \$850

Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$1150

Palo Alto, 1 BR/1 BA - \$800/per m

Redwood City, 2 BR/2 BA - \$790.00

815 Rentals Wanted

Cottage Please

Home in Paly boundary

Housing Wanted - Exchange

Mid-peninsula, BR/ BA

Seeking Quiet Studio/1 BR Apt.

Seeking Small Cottage/Room

820 Home Exchanges

Fine Home Design/Architecture

Green Cool Modern

825 Homes/Condos for Sale

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Belmont, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$1350000

East Palo Alto, 2 BR/1 BA - \$268000

Los Altos Hills, 4 BR/3.5 BA - \$2,495,000

Mountain View, 3 BR/2 BA
\$132,500 Mobile home in Mtn View, built 2001. 1100 sf, large kitchen, lots of windows. Near downtown. Low space rent of \$577/month. For info: Peter Lee, Keller Williams Palo Alto, at 650-454-8518.

Palo Alto, 3 BR/1 BA - \$929000

Redwood City, 3 BR/2 BA - \$788,000



Redwood City, 4 BR/2.5 BA
Gorgeous Remodel:Open Sun1-4 232 OuterCircle/232outercircle.com

Redwood City, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$2999500

Redwood Shores, 5+ BR/4+ BA - \$1,285,000

San Carlos, 3 BR/2 BA - \$849,000

San Carlos, 3 BR/2 BA - 958,000

San Carlos, 3 BR/2.5 BA - \$1195000

830 Commercial/Income Property

Downtown Palo Alto Meeting Rooms
Rent Rooms/Facilities Hourly!
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EXECUTIVE SUITES IN MENLO PARK
120A SANTA MARGARITA AVE. MENLO PARK - A variety of LARGE individual office suites - sizes and price from \$1,000 to \$1,400/MO. Short-term available. GO DIRECT MON. - FRI.10 AM TO 2 PM OR email at lisa@redhawkre.com

PA: Downtown
120-4355 sf offices for lease. Photos, plans, pricing: www.paoffices.com. 650/776-5390

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120-4355 sf offices for lease. Photos, plans, pricing: www.paoffices.com. 650/776-5390

PA: Downtown
120-4355 sf offices for lease. Photos, plans, pricing: www.paoffices.com. 650/776-5390

840 Vacation Rentals/Time Shares

Bed & Breakfast B&B Hotel

Green Cool Modern

Pajaro Dunes Condo
2BR/2BA or 1BR/1BA. On beach, ocean view. Cable TV, VCR, CD, tennis, W/D. Pvt. deck, BBQ. Owner, 650/424-1747. hherzenber@aol.com

Palo Alto, CA

845 Out of Area

CARMEL VALLEY
Vacation cabins in private wilderness resort. Fishing, pools tennis. \$135k to \$475k + membership. (831)659-5949 www.mountain-cabins.com

850 Acreage/Lots/Storage

Buyer's Market
New Mexico. Ranch Dispersal. 140 acres - \$89,900. River Access. Northern New Mexico. Cool 6,000' elevation with stunning views. Great tree cover including Ponderosa, rolling grassland and rock outcroppings. Abundant wildlife, great hunting. EZ terms. Call NML&R, Inc. 1-866-360-5263. (Cal-SCAN)

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860 Housesitting

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WEBJUICE, LLC
2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101
Mountain View, CA 94043
This business is owned by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 12/01/2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 17, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

CAREER-ADVANCE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 517943
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Career-Advance, 2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County: WEBJUICE, LLC
2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101
Mountain View, CA 94043
This business is owned by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 12/01/2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 17, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

DEGREE AXIS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 517940
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Degree Axis, 2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County: WEBJUICE, LLC
2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101
Mountain View, CA 94043
This business is owned by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 12/01/2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 17, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

SHU-CHEN WU CONSULTING
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 518063
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Shu-Chen Wu Consulting, 1245 Villa Street, Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County: SHU-CHEN WU
1245 Villa St.
Mountain View, CA 94041
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 19, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

DEVELOPYOURCAREER
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 517941
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, DevelopYourCareer, 2525 Charleston Rd., Suite 101, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County:

CLERK-RECORDER OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY
December 24, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

JobDesk
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 518058
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, JobDesk, 541 Del Medio Ave. Apt. 302, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County: ARIEL JAKOBOVITS
541 Del Medio Ave. Apt. 302
Mountain View, CA 94040
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 19, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

KENDALL SQUARE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 517778
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Kendall Square, 2672 Baysshore Parkway, Suite 920, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County: WINSTON S. CHO
2400 W. El Camino Real # 819
Mountain View, CA 94040
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 02/18/1998.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 12, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

COMNETRICS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 518238
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Comnetrics, 826 West Dana St., Mountain View, CA 94041, Santa Clara County: DONALD C. JOHNSON
440 Nicholas Dr.
Mountain View, CA 94043
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 4/1/2000 (State of WA). This statement was filed with the County

#



OPEN SAT & SUN
1:30 - 4:30

MANOR WAY, LOS ALTOS
Offered for \$1,398,000



OPEN SAT 2-4 &
SUN 12-3

LUNDY LANE, LOS ALTOS
Offered for \$1,748,998



OPEN SUN
2-4

COUNTRY SQUIRE LN, SARATOGA
Offered for \$1,448,000



OPEN SUN
2-4

RANCHITA, LOS ALTOS
Offered for \$2,590,000



CAPISTRANO WAY, LOS ALTOS
Offered for \$1,095,000



OPEN SUN
2-4

BELMONT TR, SUNNYVALE
Offered for \$555,000



(650) 947-2900 • LOS ALTOS
(408) 335-1400 • LOS GATOS
(408) 741-2800 • SARATOGA
WWW.SERENOGROUP.COM



▼ OPEN SAT & SUN, 1:30-4:30

LOS ALTOS

1476 FAIRWAY DR \$3,798,000
Newly constructed 5 BR home on approximately half AC flat lot. Beautiful gourmet kitchen, open family room, soaring ceilings, crown moldings, hardwood floors, office, 3 car garage.

▼ OPEN SUNDAY, 1:30-4:30

EAST PALO ALTO



1982 WEST BAYSHORE ROAD #232 \$479,000
Wonderful one bedroom, one bath third level condominium with convenient access to major commute routes, shopping, and more. Spacious family room, kitchen with breakfast nook, and private patio with views of the Western hills and Creek.

LOS ALTOS HILLS

25870 RIDGEWOOD LANE \$2,295,000
This approx. 4300 sqft family home offers great living space for the active family. The spacious home boasts 6 BR/4BA & an open Kitchen/Family rm floor plan. Filled with light, there are wonderful vistas from most rooms. Downstairs, there is a second family rm which opens to the pool. Close in location & excellent Los Altos Schools.

LOS ALTOS

287 QUINN HILL RD. \$2,648,000
Fabulous Wendell Roscoe designed home perched high on a knoll top with views of the hills. The great floor plan features a large great room, formal dining room surrounded by windows with views and a lower level room with bath that could be used as a four bedroom, office or theater room. Beautiful mature landscaping and patio enhance outdoor living with pool and koi pond.

▼ BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

BURLINGAME

GORGEOUS TOP FLOOR UNIT \$589,900
Wonderful end unit features two bedrooms, two baths, kitchen, dining area, breakfast nook, living area. Great views of the hills. Light and airy top floor unit with high ceilings, convenient location near downtown Burlingame.

LOS ALTOS HILLS

ENTERTAINER'S DELIGHT \$13,600,000
This elegant estate includes a library, two family rooms, theater room, au-pair quarters, wine making facility, pool, cabana, 8-10 car garage. MBR suite w/sep. retreat and fireplace. 2,000 SF guest house. Palo Alto Schools.

YOUR CHANCE TO BUILD! \$2,395,000
Preliminary plans available for European estate with approx. 11,000 SF plus a sep. guest house & 4-car garage. Lot may be purchased separately. MDA: 110,051 / MFA: 8,477

LOS ALTOS

DESIRABLE LOCATION \$4,200,000
Designated a Historical Home by the City of Los Altos and enjoying the benefits of the Mills Act, this elegant and charming hm is approx. 4,000 sqft & includes 4BR/3.5BA, formal LR, DR, Kitchen w/butler's pantry, Fam rm, and large third flr recreation rm. Located just blocks from downtown Los Altos.

MOUNTAIN VIEW



MINUTES TO TOWN \$889,500
Spacious bungalow style home near downtown Mountain View. Large back yard, 3br/2ba, approximately 1700 sq. ft. of living space. Large family room with fireplace, hardwood floors, freshly painted.

OPPORTUNITY AWAITS! \$439,000
Build to suit. Private setting located within 2 blocks of downtown Mt. View, Caltrain, VTA, & local restaurants. Water & sewer lines installed. Utilities available. Drive by today! Priced to sell!

SUNNYVALE

COMING SOON! \$699,000
Great Townhouse in Prime Location with West Valley Elementary, Cupertino Middle and Homestead High. Other features include, 3 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms, updated kitchen w/ new cabinets & Granite counter top, new Hardwood floors & doors & much more.

Worldwide Referral and Global Internet Exposure.
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Buyer Seminar

Tuesday, January 27th @ 7-9 p.m.
Alain Pinel Realtors Office, 578 University Ave., Palo Alto

What You Need to Know about Buying in Today's Real Estate Market

We are experiencing an unbelievable buyer's market with declining home prices, increased inventory and record low interest rates. Find out when is the time to buy...

- What is happening in the real estate market in your area? Have we hit the bottom? If you own a house, is it better to buy first or sell first or rent?
- What to expect for 2009 - market trends and predications
- Learn which areas in the Bay Area are the best buys right now
- Learn how to negotiate the best offer on a property
- Finding and working with short sales
- What buyers should be aware of - disclosures, home inspections, your rights and more
- Find out about tax benefits and exemptions for 2009
- Find out about the best loan programs and about government loan stimulus packages that are available for a limited time only
- Find out about the pre approval process and appraisals in a declining market
- Find out how to review your credit score and improve it

Please RSVP by Jan 25th

Guest speaker: Christine Kani with Private Mortgage Advisors



Get answers to all your real estate questions!

David Chung
Office: 650.543.1058
Cell: 650.302.6027
dchung@apr.com

Caroline Ratelle
Office: 650.380.3389
cratelle@apr.com



apr.com | PALO ALTO 578 University Avenue 650.323.1111

1505 Bonita Avenue, Mountain View



Offered at
\$985,000

Please call for
more information

In the heart of the Cuesta Park Neighborhood

This home offers 3 bedrooms, 2 bright, updated baths, hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, double-pane windows, bonus room offering many possibilities, a built-in loft with pull-down ladder for extra storage in spacious 2 car garage, and landscaped yards. Walking distance to Bubbs Elementary School and Cuesta Park, and not far from shopping, commute routes, hospital, train station, farmers market, and Downtown's many attractions.



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Located in the heart 
of Silicon Valley


Windermere
Silicon Valley Properties



867 Georgetown Place *San Jose*

Open House Sunday January 18th 1:30-4:30 pm

Stunning executive end unit home with luxurious upgrades, features, & designer paints throughout. Premium location: Interior of neighborhood, private, quiet, close to Light Rail, Amtrack, Caltrain, HP Pavilion, Cahill Park, The Alameda Neighborhood. Largest unit, big wrap-around patio.

3 bedrooms 2 1/2 baths.

Offered at \$699,000



Beachfront Home *Aptos*

Come enjoy the Monterey Bay beachfront home. Country English style home built 1928. Step down to the beach from your deck. This is a very private location in a gated community of 29 homes. Built by Dutch contractor Lou Foote in old County English style fashioned after the Anne Hathaway House. 4 bedrooms 2 baths.

By appointment only.

Offered at \$6,250,000

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**Everything you wanted to know about
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First 100 attendees will be registered
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Royce... and the art of Real Estate

**700 Chiquita Ave. #10
Mountain View**

**Open Sat & Sun
1:30 to 4:30**



Elegantly updated 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome w/ dual master suites
Dining area with door to private patio
Spacious living room boasts recessed lights and corner wood burning fireplace with tile surround
Master suite with sliding mirror closet doors and door to large upper deck
Inside laundry hook-ups
Attached 1 car garage plus 1 uncovered guest parking space
Priced at: \$528,000

**421 Sierra Vista Ave. #2
Mountain View**

**Open Sat & Sun
1:30 to 4:30**



Updated 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome end unit in small complex
Wood floors throughout 1st level
Kitchen with granite counter top, new cabinets, recessed & track lights
Living room with vaulted ceiling, skylight and wood burning fireplace
Berber carpet in bedrooms
Attached 1 car garage plus 1 detached
Inside washer/dryer hook-up
Priced at: \$688,000

**913 Camille Lane
Mountain View**

**Open Sat & Sun
1:30 to 4:30**



Elegant 3 bedroom, 3.5 bath townhome includes dual master suites w/ vaulted ceilings & walk-in closets
Living room with fireplace, high ceiling and wood floors
Gourmet kitchen w/ granite counter and maple cabinets
Separate dining room
Attached 2 car garage
Inside full size laundry hook-ups
Priced at: \$898,000

**919 La Mesa Terrace #C
Sunnyvale**

**Open Sat & Sun
1:30 to 4:30**



Updated 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome
Formal entry
New bamboo floors & new carpet
Kitchen with granite counter top
Large dual master suites
Baths with dual vanities & skylights
Inside laundry hook-ups
Attached 2 car garage
Priced at: \$698,000

**720 Quetta Ave. #B
Sunnyvale**

**Open Sunday
1:30 to 4:30**



Spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath townhome near schools & parks
Living room w/ slider to patio
Dining area w/ custom tile floor, ceiling fan & slider to patio
Kitchen with breakfast bar and ample counter & cabinet space
Master bath w/ tile floor, granite counter top and vaulted ceiling
Inside laundry hook-ups
Hosted by Dafna Mizrahi
Priced at: \$630,000

Royce Cablayan



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&
The #1 Producing Agent in Mountain View for the last 10 years
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(650)917-4339



PUBLIC NOTICES

► Continued from page 26

doing business as, HeyCosmo, 2672 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 808, Mountain View, CA 94043, Santa Clara County: ARSENAL INTERACTIVE, INC. 2672 Bayshore Parkway, Suite 808 Mountain View, CA 94043
This business is owned by a Corporation. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 2/24/07.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 26, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

NYC FASHION SPOT
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No. 518050
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, NYC Fashion Spot, 882 Old San Francisco Road, Sunnyvale, CA 94086, Santa Clara County: HIMANSHU KUMAR 685 Iris Ave., #31 Sunnyvale, CA 94086
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 19, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 9, 16, 23, 30, 2009)

ENLIGHTENED SUPER TRADER
EDUCATION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No. 518594
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Enlightened Super Trader Education, 1931 California St. # 22, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County: REYNALDO SORIANO JR. 1931 California St. #22 Mountain View, CA 94040
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 1/5/09.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 06, 2009.
(Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2009)

OH SO SWANKY
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No. 518512
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, Oh So Swanky, 1425 Gretel Lane, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County: JAYNE E. HOLZKNECHT 1425 Gretel Lane Mtn.View, CA 94040
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 1-1-09.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 5, 2009.
(Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2009)

B & I CONSTRUCTION
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No. 518685
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, B & I Construction, 985 Mangrove Ave. #C, Sunnyvale, CA 94086, Santa Clara County: IANI GRIGOROV 985 Mangrove Ave. #C Sunnyvale, CA 94086
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 8, 2009.
(Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2009)

EVENTURES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT
File No. 518504
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, eventures, 650 Castro Street. Ste., 120-225, Mountain View, CA 94040, Santa Clara County: DIANE BRAGA 81 Los Altos Square Los Altos, CA 94022
This business is owned by an individual. Registrant/Owner began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein on 12/03/2008.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on January 5, 2009.
(Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2009)

MORE DECOR FURNITURE
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

STATEMENT
File No. 518345
The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as, More Decor Furniture, 1725 Comstock, Santa Clara, CA 95054, Santa Clara County: 3 SCORE ENTERPRISES LLC 352 Bachman Ct. Los Gatos, CA 95030
This business is owned by a Limited Liability Company. Registrant/Owner has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name(s) listed herein.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk-Recorder of Santa Clara County on December 29, 2008.
(Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 2009)

997 All Other Legals

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
DOMINGO A. ROQUERO
Case No. 1-08-PR-163119
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DOMINGO A. ROQUERO.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: ANA LIZA ROQUERO in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANA LIZA ROQUERO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)
The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on FEBRUARY 26, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 15 of the Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your

objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in section 9100 of the California Probate Code. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Matthew A. Crosby, CSB #070524 Crosby & Farnum 2785 Park Avenue Santa Clara, CA 95050 (408)370-7500 (Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, 2009)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
SAM ESTREICHER
Case No. 1-08-PR-164401
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of SAM ESTREICHER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: GENEVIEVE ESTREICHER in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that GENEVIEVE ESTREICHER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)
The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on FEBRUARY 5, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. 15 of the Superior Court of California, Santa Clara County, located at 191 N. First St., San Jose, CA, 95113. IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in section 9100 of the California Probate Code. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner: /s/ Margaret Demorest 1250 Oakmead Parkway, Suite 210 Sunnyvale, California 94085 (408)248-8502 (Voice Jan. 16, 23, 30, 2009)

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SARATOGA 4 BR | 2.5 BA

20775 SAINT JOAN COURT \$1,500,000
Lovely ranch on peaceful cul-de-sac. Remodeled kitchen. Landscaped. Pool. 3-car garage.
Terrie Masuda 650.941.7040



LOS ALTOS 2 BR | 2.5 BA

VILLAGE SQUARE TOWNHOUSES \$1,049,000
Los Altos Village Square townhouses. Exquisite brand new construction by Di Mattei.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040



MOUNTAIN VIEW 4 BR | 2.5 BA

1551 CANNA COURT \$658,000
Best location in complex! Overlooking Green belt! A/C! Spacious LR w/FP. Updated kit w/pantry. Updated BAs w/granite. Terrific floor plan!
Afsie and Sia 650.948.0456



MOUNTAIN VIEW 3 BR | 2 BA

1505 BONITA AVENUE \$985,000
Bright & updated w/double pane windows, hardwood floors, fireplace, bonus room, built-in storage loft in 2 car garage.
Nancy Adele Stuhr 650.948.0456



MOUNTAIN VIEW 3 BR | 2.5 BA

648 WILLOWGATE ST. \$859,880
Willowgate Townhomes combining traditional craftsman architecture in a collection of 11 timeless designed homes!
Gil Orah 650.325.6161



MOUNTAIN VIEW 3 BR | 1 BA

991 LANE AVE \$949,000
A beautiful and thoroughly renovated home on a lot of more than 9400 sq ft near downtown Mountain View.
Lan L. Bowling 650.328.5211

CUPERTINO

20145 NORTHWIND SQ
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$648,000
2 BR 2 BA Remodeled kit w/maple cabinets, granite cnters, bonus rm, dual-pane windows, 2-car gar.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

OPEN FLOORPLAN! \$579,000
2 BR 2 BA Spacious unit offers 1,240+ sq. ft. Pool view. Patio. Washer/dryer. Excellent schools.
Terrie Masuda 650.941.7040

LOS ALTOS

BEAUTY IN THE DETAILS \$3,198,000
4 BR 3.5 BA Mediterranean completed in 2007. Near Club. Marble, mahogany, art glass & oversized drs.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040

140 MERRITT RD
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$2,888,000
4 BR 3 BA Striking architectural design & fine quality craftsmanship.
Julie Lau 650.325.6161

568 SHIRLYNN CT
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$2,750,126
5 BR 4 BA Built by builder for himself-no expense spared-open floor plan around huge great room.
Jerry Haslam 650.948.0456

ALL BELLS & WHISTLES! \$2,699,890
4 BR 3.5 BA Custom, new construction with high end finishes. Chef's kitchen. Oversized FR.
Shelly Potvin 650.941.7040

875 RIVERSIDE DR
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$2,695,000
3 BR 3.5 BA Separate office, media room, DR. Family room /kitchen with built-in desk area.
R. Brendan Leary 650.325.6161

PRESTIGE DOS PALOS \$2,095,000
3 BR 3 BA Beautiful remodel by creek on cul-de-sac. Cook's kitchen. Formal dining. Top schools.
Anne Ward 650.941.7040

660 S SPRINGER RD
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,949,000
4 BR 3 BA Lovely hm set far back from street on approx 23,000 sq ft lot in desirable Los Altos. Pool.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

FAR REACHING VIEWS \$1,899,000
Views of Montebello Range on a new cul-de-sac. Close to town. MFA is 5,700 sq. ft.
Gerry Lawrence 650.941.7040

QUALITY IN THE HIGHLANDS \$1,548,000
5 BR 2.5 BA French doors open to wrap around deck. Updated kitchen. Family room. Pool & spa.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040

PRESTIGIOUS COUNTRY CLUB \$1,499,000
Wonderful neighborhood, property is adjacent to and overlooking the golf course.
Jim Galli 650.948.0456

LOS ALTOS

301 BLUE OAK LANE
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,478,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Cul-de-sac loc on lg lot w/mature trees & pool! Creek side is back & side of property.
Barbara Cannon 650.948.0456

VILLAGE SQUARE TOWNHOUSES \$1,099,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Los Altos Village Square townhouses. Exquisite brand new construction by Di Mattei.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040

VILLAGE SQUARE TOWNHOUSES \$1,049,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Los Altos Village Square townhouses. Exquisite brand new construction by Di Mattei.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040

VILLAGE SQUARE TOWNHOUSES \$975,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Los Altos Village Square townhouses. Exquisite brand new construction by Di Mattei.
Terri Couture 650.941.7040

DESIRED LOCATION \$878,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Super sharp remodel in Los Altos Square. Approx. 1,568sf. 3 pools, sauna & clubhse.
Dora Thordarson 650.941.7040

LOS ALTOS HILLS

25045 ONEONTA DR
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$3,950,000
6 BR 4 BA Minutes to the Village w/ views of the Bay and Hills. Gourmet kit. Theater & wine cave.
Bryan Robertson 650.948.0456

LOS GATOS

ATOP THE HILLS \$2,195,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Beautifully remodeled two level hm & vineyard in Alta Vista area w/far reaching views.
Vicki Geers 650.941.7040

A GREAT DEAL! \$799,000
4 BR 2 BA Creekside hm. First time on the market in 30+ years. Recent double paned windows.
Elena Talis 650.941.7040

MENLO PARK

120 DUNSMUIR WY
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,099,000
3 BR 2 BA Hdwd flrs, sep. FR, fp, Crown molding & raised 6 panel doors. French drs to lg backyard.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

MILPITAS

648 COSTIGAN CIRCLE
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$715,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Spacious two story home-Master Suite w/walk-in closet & lg bathroom w/dual sinks.
Carl Nowicki 650.328.5211

MOUNTAIN VIEW

HOME + INCOME IN MT. VIEW \$2,100,000
3 BR 2 BA Remod & like new SFR vacant, six 1bd/1ba w/tenants, hwd flrs, FP, new custom tile BAs.
Tim Trailer 650.325.6161

MOUNTAIN VIEW

TUCKED AWAY... \$1,675,000
5 BR 3 BA Cul-de-sac near MV High. 2,940+ sq. ft. Remodeled kitchen. Large FR. Patio, pool.
Joanne Fraser 650.941.7040

1269 CUERNAVACA CIRCULO
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,135,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Largest flr plan in Cuernavaca! Euro-style eat-in kit, mstr w/fireplace & sunken tub.
Jim Galli 650.948.0456

HOUSE & COTTAGE \$948,000
4 BR 3 BA Formal entry, Jacuzzi tub, office, cottage, guest suite, fp, mature landscape & lg lot.
Tim Trailer 650.325.6161

MOUNTAIN VIEW 4-PLEX \$995,000
4 - 2 BR 1 BA units @ 756sf ea. 2 levels, 4 car independent garage, shared laundry. Appt. only.
Tim Trailer 650.325.6161

1891 DREW AV
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$898,000
4 BR 2 BA Extensively expanded & remodeled. High Cathedral ceilings w/ skylights. New kit & BAs.
Garrett Mock 650.328-5211

913 CAMILLE LN
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$898,000
3 BR 3.5 BA FP, hi ceil, sep fam rm, 2-car. Nrly new w/2 mstr suites. LR w/FP, high ceil, wood flrs.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

360 VELARDE ST
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$863,000
3 BR 1 BA Old fashioned original w/hrdwd flrs, frplc, sep din rm, classic gas stove, walk to train.
Nancy Adele Stuhr 650.948.0456

1775 ELSIE AVE
SAT/SUN 1:00 - 4:30 \$730,000
3 BR 1 BA Cute & Cozy, New Andersen Double Pane Windows, New Stucco exterior, close to schls.
Geraldine Asmus 650.325.6161

GREAT FAMILY HOME \$708,000
3 BR 3 BA Refinished hw flrs. New carpets. Sep FR & dining rm Walk to downtown & light rail.
Garrett Mock 650.328.5211

421 SIERRA VISTA AV #2
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$688,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Vault ceilings, skylites, updated kit, inside Indry. Granite counters in kit. 2 car gar.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

1528 LILAC LN
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$650,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Spacious 4 bed TH. Fabulous Updtd Kit & BAs, 1 whirlpool. Laminate/wood floors.
Aileen La Bouff 650.948.0456

2091 SAN LUIS AV #2
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$549,000
2 BR 2.5 BA 2 MBR suites w/walk-in's, updt kit & BAs, fp, prvt @ rear of complex-overlooks greenbelt.
Nancy Adele Stuhr 650.948.0456

MOUNTAIN VIEW

1983 SAN LUIS AV #17
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$548,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Hdwd flrs on 1st level & new crpt upstrs. Spacious LR w/corner fp. Remod kit w/granite.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

700 CHIQUITA AV #10
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$528,000
2 BR 2.5 BA New carpet & fresh paint. Dual master suites. Separate DR. Attached garage.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

765 N. RENGSTORFF AVE. #19
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$385,000
1 BR 1 BA 899 sq ft end unit w/ fp. Ground level. Remodld kit w/ granite. New appliances. Hwd flr.
Greg Stange 650.325.6161

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES \$225,000
3 BR 2 BA Cozy 3+2 home on 6.8 wooded, level sunny acres in Oroville, CA.
Jim Galli 650.948.0456

OROVILLE

655 KINGSLEY AVE
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$3,399,000
5 BR 4.5 BA ~3700sf of living space, open flr pln, 3 levels. Designed: Stephen Pogue; Built: J5 Homes.
Mandana Nejad 650.325.6161

730 ASHBY DR
SAT/SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$2,649,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Timeless charm in this Inviting Crescent Park hm w/step-down living room.
Rod Creason 650.325.6161

OLD PALO ALTO \$2,639,000
3 BR 2 BA Mediterranean revival hm w/enchanting walled courtyard. Remdld kit, woodburning FP.
Debbie Nichols 650.325.6161

1212 PARKINSON AVENUE
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,950,000
4 BR 3 BA Open, Bright and spacious home. 2500 sq ft living space, & 5000 sq ft Lot.
Maha Najjar 650.325.6161

904 COWPER ST
SUN 1:30-4:30 \$1,800,000
4 BR 2 BA Beautiful vintage 2-story hm in terrific dntwn location. Gorgeous woodwork.
Sharon Witte 650.325.6161

VERY SPACIOUS RANCH \$1,399,000
4 BR 2 BA Located on a large lot. Fresh paint hwd flrs, A/C. Private backyard. Top PA schools.
Doris Deising 650.325.6161

2363 SIERRA CT
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$1,199,000
3 BR 2 BA Don't judge from the street. This house is large. Designed by an artist to bring light.
Lynne Mercer 650.325.6161

PALO ALTO

3600 RAMONA ST
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$899,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Light & Bright in tranquil setting. Updated kit & BAs. Over 1000 sq, appx lot 5500 sq.
Julie Lau 650.325.6161

SAN JOSE

4873 LAGO VISTA CI
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$675,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Cupertino schls. Low HOA dues. Prvt yard. Kit w/new stnless appliances, granite cntrs.
Paige Gienger 650.948.0456

SANTA CLARA

EXTREMELY LARGE LOT \$849,000
4 BR 2 BA Plot map states 8891sf lot! MBR 360sf w/bay wndw. Huge storage area, RV parking.
Geraldine Asmus 650.325.6161

UPGRADED RIVERMARK \$695,000
7022 FITZPATRIC WAY
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$695,000
3 BR 3 BA Townhome in prime Rivermark loc. \$30K quality upgrades. Meticulously care for by owners.
Yasemin Richardson 650.948.0456

SARATOGA

TASTEFULLY UPDATED \$1,500,000
4 BR 2.5 BA Lovely ranch on peaceful cul-de-sac. Remodeled kit. Landscaped. Pool. 3-car garage.
Terrie Masuda 650.941.7040

SUNNYVALE

919 LA MESA TE #C
SAT 1:30 - 4:30 \$698,000
2 BR 2.5 BA Formal entry leads to LR w/FP. Granite cnttrps in kit. Inside Indry. 2 lg MBR stes.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

GREAT CURB APPEAL \$649,000
3 BR 1 BA Charming brick home near new Town Center & Murphy Park. Fireplace. Formal DR.
Ellen Barton 650.941.7040

720 QUETTA AV #B
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$630,000
3 BR 2.5 BA Updated kit. Din area w/ custom tile flr & slider to patio. Inside Indry. Low HOA dues.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

838 SAN MATEO CT
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$500,000
3 BR 1 BA Great Starter Opportunity - hm improvements recently done on the exterior; paint & fence.
Greg Stange 650.325.6161

END UNIT TOWNHOME \$499,000
2 BR 1.5 BA Wood beam ceiling. Private wood deck w/trellis. Laundry rm, attached garage.
Royce Cablayan 650.948.0456

999 W EVELYN TER #81
SUN 1:30 - 4:30 \$415,000
2 BR 2 BA Wood flrs, inside laundry, Sep. DR or office, Pool, tennis, new paint & carpet.
Kathleen & Dave Pasin 650.325.6161



MOUNTAIN VIEW

OPEN SAT & SUN!

1269 CUERNAVACA CIRCULO

RESORT-STYLE LIVING \$1,135,000

4BR/2.5BA. Largest floor plan in Cuernavaca! Euro-style eat-in kitchen, master retreat w/fireplace & sunken tub. Formal living & dining rooms. Great Backyard



Barbara Cymrot

650.948.0456

bcymrot@cbnorcal.com



PALO ALTO

OPEN SAT & SUN!

440 CESANO COURT #203

2BR/2BA \$699,000

Large, stylish condo. Approx. 1760 square feet, 2BR 2BA plus den convertible to bedroom. Newly decorated, new appliances. Secure building with 2 parking spaces. Attractive pool and spa. Wonderful cul-de-sac location near Los Altos/Mountain View border. Terrific Los Altos schools.



Charlene & Vicki Geers

650.917.7990

650.917.7983

www.cgeers@cbnorcal.com

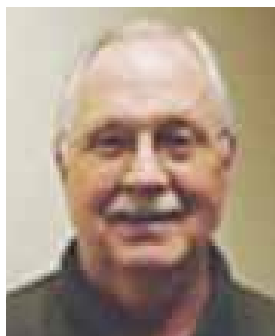


GILROY

1154 SPRIG WAY

STEEL FRAME-NEW HOME \$698,000

5BR/3BA. Under construction. Many upgrades. Stainless appliances, 2 fp, 2 mstr clsts. Hdwd flrs, tile & crpts. Central A/C & heat-2 zones. Lndscpd rear & front



Justin Berglund

650.948.0456

jberglund@cbnorcal.com



MOUNTAIN VIEW

OPEN SAT & SUN!

1505 BONITA AVENUE

IN DESIRABLE CUESTA PARK \$985,000

3BR/2BA. Bright & updated w/double pane windows, hardwood floors, fireplace, bonus room, built-in storage loft in 2 car garage



Nancy Adele Stuhr

650.948.0456

nstuhr@cbnorcal.com



MENLO PARK

OPEN SUNDAY!

120 DUNSMUIR WAY

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED \$1,099,000

3BR/2BA. Refinished hardwood floors, crown molding & raised 6 panel doors. Eat-in kitchen w/granite counter, bay window, & recessed lights. Living Room w/vaulted ceiling..



Royce Cablayan

650.948.0456

rcablayan@cbnorcal.com



LOS ALTOS

641 HAWTHORNE DRIVE

4BR/3.5BA \$2,699,890

Custom designed home is overflowing with high-end finishes. No expense has been spared in building this residence. Stunning entry. Formal living & dining rooms. Chef's delight kitchen has high end appliances. Oversized family room. Spectacular master suite. Expansive patio. CAT 5, wiring for surround sound, intercom & more!



Shelly Potvin

650.917.7994

www.shellypotvin.com



LOS ALTOS HILLS

OPEN SAT & SUN!
1200 - 400

13501 PASEO DEL ROBLE

5BR/2BA+ 2 1/2BA \$4,295,000

Exquisitely remodeled English manor style residence on knolltop with exceptional views. Welcome to the formal entry with soaring ceilings. Separate large office. Trio of reception rooms includes living room, garden family room & dining room. Great room extends from kitchen for gatherings. Upstairs master suite. Approx. 4,195 sq. ft. of luxury. Approx. 2.788 acres. Three car garage. Desirable Palo Alto schools.



Terri Couture

650.917.5811

www.terricouture.com



SARATOGA

OPEN SAT & SUN!

20775 SAINT JOAN COURT

4BR/2.5BA \$1,500,000

Tastefully updated ranch on peaceful cul-de-sac. Remodeled kitchen has new granite counters & appliances. Updated baths. New tile floors & carpets. Professionally landscaped. New paved driveway. In-ground swimming pool. Spacious 3-car garage. Desirable Cupertino Union School District.



Terrie Masuda

650.917.7969

www.terriemasuda.com